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 2
           IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
              FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA
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 4
    IN RE: VIAGRA PRODUCTS
 5
    LIABILITY LITIGATION
                               MDL NO. 1724
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    This document pertains
                                  Judge Paul A.
    to ALL CASES
                                   Magnuson
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              THE VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION DEF
    HOWARD POMERANZ, M.D., taken before Eileen
12
    Mulvenna, CSR/RMR, Certified Sporthand Reporter,
13
   Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public of
14
   the State of New York, commencing at 8:34 a.m.,
15
    June 8, 2007, at 42 Park Avenue, New York, New
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    York.
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1 2APPEARANCES:	1	- Proceedings -
3 .	2	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're on the
4 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS: 5	3 re	cord.
6 BECNEL LAW FIRM	4	Today's date is June 8, 2007. The
106 West Seventh Street 7 Reserve, Louisiana 70084	5 tin	me is 8:34 a.m. This is the videotape
BY: DANIEL E. BECNEL, JR., ESQ.	6 de	position of Dr. Howard Pomeranz in the
8 -and-	7 ca	se of In Re: Viagra Products Liability
9 LAW OFFICES OF PONING C. DENTON	8 Li	tigation, MDL No. 1724. Case filed in
LAW OFFICES OF RONNIE G. PENTON 10 209 Hoppen Place	9 the	e U.S. District Court, District of
Bogalusa, Louisiana 70427 11 BY: RONNIE G. PENTON, ESQ.	10 M	innesota. We're at the offices of Kaye
12	11 Sc	choler, 425 Park Avenue, New York,
13 ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT PFIZER: 14		ew York.
KAYE SCHOLER	13	The videographer is Chris Martin and
15 425 Park Avenue New York, New York 10022-3598	14 the	e court reporter is Eileen Mulvenna.
16 BY: LORI B. LESKIN, ESQ.		e're from Veritext Court Reporting in
AVIGAEL CYMROT, ESQ. 17		ew York City.
-and-	17	At this time, will counsel please
MALINI MOORTHY, ESQ.		troduce themselves for the record.
19 Corporate Counsel, Pfizer, Inc.	19	MR. PENTON: Ronnie Penton on behal
235 East 42nd Street 20 New York, New York 10017	T .	the plaintiffs.
21 COURT-APPOINTED JOHN W. BORG, ESQ.	21	MR. BECNEL: Daniel Becnel on behalf
COURT-APPOINTED JOHN W. BORG, ESQ. 22 SPECIAL MASTER: 6612 Limerick Drive		the plaintiffs.
Edina, Minnesota 55439	23	MS. LESKIN: Lori Leskin of Kaye
24 VIDEOGRAPHER: CHRISTOPHER MARTIN		choler on behalf of Pfizer.
ALSO PRESENT: ALON HARRIS, Ph.D. 25 JOHN GAMEL, M.D.	25	MS. CYMROT: Avigael Cymrot on
3		•
1	1	- Proceedings -
2 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED,		chalf of Pfizer.
3 by and between the attorneys for the respective	3	MR. GAMEL: John Gamel on behalf of
4 parties herein, that filing and sealing be and		aye Scholer.
5 the same are hereby waived.	5	MR. HARRIS: Ronald Harris on behalf
6	6 of	Kaye Scholer.
7 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED	7	MS. MOORTHY: Malini Moorthy for
8 that all objections, except as to the form of the		fizer.
9 question, shall be reserved to the time	9	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Will the court
10 of the trial.	10 re	porter please swear in the witness.
11	11 DR. H	HOWARD POMERANZ,
12 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED		wing been duly sworn by Eileen Mulvenna
13 that the within deposition may be signed and	13 a	Notary Public of the State of New York,
14 sworn to before any officer authorized to	14 wa	as examined and testified as follows:
15 administer an oath, with the same force and	15	JUDGE BORG: Dr. Pomeranz, I want to
16 effect as if signed and sworn to before the	16 gi	ve you a short tutorial on this.
17 officer before whom the within deposition was	17	As you know, Miss Leskin is going to
18 taken.	18 be	e asking you questions. If an objection
19		interposed by either the lawyers on this
20		de or Miss Leskin's side, please don't
20		swer the question until I rule on it and
21		
21	22 te	ll you whether or not you can answer.
21 22	22 tel 23	ll you whether or not you can answer. THE WITNESS: Okay.
21 22 23	22 tel 23 24	ll you whether or not you can answer.

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Howard Pomeranz state the ground. We'll deal with it. If I don't understand it, I'll tell you I don't understand it and we'll make things move a whole lot more quickly, I think. Dr. Pomeranz, I know you know this,

but one of sort of the rules of the game, if you will, is that this lawyer gets to attempt to control you. And that's just the way it works.

And if you feel like you're getting cornered on a question and you don't like that you're not able to respond to it, the attorneys that you are working with here will be able to ask you questions later on. They're going to get their opportunity to do that, but she's going to get to use the rules to let her try and control where she's going to take you and where you're going to take her.

THE WITNESS: I understand.

JUDGE BORG: I appreciate that.

23 Thank you very much.

Miss Leskin, go ahead.

25 MS. LESKIN: Thank you, Judge Borg.

Howard Pomeranz

2 And the first I actually saw the document was on 3 Monday.

4 When did you first ask for a 5 subpoena in this case -- whether a subpoena had 6 been served in this case?

I didn't. Α.

Q. So you said a week ago you asked if 9 there had been one. So was that the first time 10 you asked about a subpoena?

11 A. Yes.

12 And prior to you asking, am I right Q. 13 that no one told you a subpoena had been served 14 for your deposition?

Correct. I just knew the date that 16 had been established a few months ago.

17 Attachment A to the subpoena asks 18 you to bring some documents. And I know that 19 we've -- prior to going on the record, you 20 provided us with one box of documents that you 21 came with today. And to be clear, we understand 22 that there may be some medical records of 23 patients whose files you've looked at or who

24 you've treated or seen within those documents.

25 And we will return the originals to

Howard Pomeranz

2 (Pomeranz 1, Subpoena, marked for 3

identification.) **4 EXAMINATION**

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5 BY MS. LESKIN

Q. Good morning, Dr. Pomeranz. As I 7 introduced myself earlier, my name is Lori Leskin 8 and I'm counsel for Pfizer in this litigation.

I want to mark, and I've marked 10 before we started, as Exhibit 1 -- we've marked 11 as Exhibit 1 a subpoena in a civil case issued to 12 you care of Neil Overholtz in this litigation.

13 Have you seen this subpoena before?

14 A.

When is the first time you saw a 16 copy of this subpoena?

17 A. Monday.

18 Q. That wasn't forwarded to you before 19 Monday?

20 A. No.

21 Did anyone tell you a subpoena had Q.

22 been served on you prior to Monday?

I don't recall. The first -- I

24 asked actually to see it or if it was present,

25 because I hadn't received it as of a week ago.

Howard Pomeranz

2 you. And if we choose to make copies of any of

3 those records, we will redact any patient

4 information prior to making any -- as part of the

5 copying process, will not keep any patient

6 identifying information.

Is that okay with you? 7

8

Were there any subjects within the 10 subpoena for which you did not have responsive 11 documents?

12 A. Well, I think some of these didn't 13 apply to me, like Number 15 or 16. So things I 14 felt were relevant or I had something to show you 15 I brought in.

Q. So 15, for example, asked for any 17 and all opinions or any other documents, such as 18 a transcript, where your qualifications as an 19 expert witness have been limited or rejected by a 20 judicial or administrative tribunal.

You said that that did not apply to 22 you. Is that because no court has so ruled?

23 A. Correct.

24 Number 16 asks for any and all O.

25 documents relating or concerning any criminal

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10 **Howard Pomeranz** 1 **Howard Pomeranz** 2 2 charges against you other than traffic offenses. corrected version I sent moments after 3 I take it that did not apply to you because there 3 sending the original one correcting a 4 have not been any criminal charges filed against 4 typographical error simply was a listing of 5 documents we intended to use. 5 you? 6 6 A. Correct. MR. BECNEL: I didn't get the 7 original one. The only one I got is the 7 Q. Were there any other numbers -corrected version. 8 categories of documents of the 18 listed here 9 that also you felt did not apply to you? 9 BY MS. LESKIN: A. Let's see. Number 14, I'm not 10 I've provided you a document we've Q. 11 associated with any kind of referral or witness 11 marked as Exhibit 2, which appears to be your CV. 12 group or something like that, so it doesn't 12 And it's dated as of April 9, 2007. (Pomeranz 2, CV of Howard Pomeranz, 13 apply. 13 14 marked for identification.) Number 13, I don't have a website, 15 don't advertise or anything like that. 15 Is this full and complete, to the And I think that's about it. 16 best of your knowledge? 16 17 A. Yes.

17 Okay. In providing the documents 18 today, did you print out documents from your 19 computer?

20 A. Yes, I went through yesterday --21 actually took me several hours of doing all 22 this -- to find as many e-mails that I could that 23 I still had around that I could identify that I

25 Q. And we appreciate that. Thank you.

24 could provide to you at your request.

25 think it probably got published after the date of 11

A. Let me just look.

Howard Pomeranz 2 We'll go through some of those documents as we go 3 through the course of the day. 4

MR. BECNEL: Miss Leskin, just to make the record complete, I notice that the deposition notice was sent out on 4/3/2007 and the amended deposition notice was sent out on Tuesday June 5th of '07.

MS. LESKIN: I'm sorry, where do you 9 10 see an amended deposition notice on June 5th? 11

12 MR. BECNEL: It came from you. It's 13 a corrected version.

14 MS. LESKIN: Well, let's be clear 15 what you're looking at. What you're looking at is my e-mail to you which 16 17 identified for you the documents we 18 reasonably expect to use during the course 19 of Dr. Pomeranz's deposition, which is -as you are well aware of by court order, we 20 are required to provide counsel five 21 22 business days prior to the deposition a

23 listing of documents we expect to use.

24 That's not in any way a request for 25 documents from the witness. And the

Howard Pomeranz

2 the CV, and it most likely is in one of the 3 folders that I gave you.

O. Have you had any additional 19 publications published since April 9, 2007?

> (Witness peruses the exhibit.) Yes, I believe there's another

23 research paper that was published beyond what's

24 there on page 9 that -- halfway down the page. I

What article was that? 4 Q.

5 It was another research article on 6 the rodent model of ischemic optic neuropathy.

12

13

7 What journal was that published in? Q.

Wait a minute. Actually -- no --A.

9 actually, I'm sorry. It's here. One of them was 10 in 2006, one was in -- actually, that's the last 11 one that's -- yeah, I'm sorry. That's a mistake.

Those are the two articles with

13 Danylkova as the lead author?

14 Correct. A.

15 O. So with that correction, there are 16 no additional articles you published since April?

That's right. 17

Okay. Have you had your deposition 18 Q.

19 taken before, Dr. Pomeranz?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. How many times?

22 Actually, I think I gave you a sheet

23 that said how many times with the cases, but 24 probably maybe five or six times, something like

25 that.

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^{4 (}Pages 10 to 13)

- Q. And those were all in your role as a 3 an expert witness?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And none of those cases, as I 6 recall, involved sildenafil; is that right?
- 7 A. That's right.
- 8 Q. Did any of those cases involve
- 9 ischemic optic neuropathy?
- 10 A. I don't believe so. I think they 11 were other neuro-ophthalmic or orbital types of 12 diagnoses.
- 13 Q. The document you gave us as part of 14 your expert report in this case lists five cases 15 in which you appeared to have given a deposition 16 and three that have gone to trial.
- 17 A. Right.
- 18 Q. On these five cases in which you 19 gave a deposition, were those medical malpractice 20 cases? Were they product liability cases? Do
- 21 you --

- A. Can I just see it to refresh my
- 23 memory?
- 24 Q. Absolutely. In fact, let's mark the 25 two pages as an exhibit.

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 details, Doctor. Those three are all medical 3 malpractice cases; correct?

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- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And the five depositions, are those 6 also -- there may be duplication in there.
- 7 A. One of them was a workers' comp. 8 That was Number 2. And the others were
- 9 malpractice-related cases, yes.
- 10 Q. Any malpractice-related cases 11 involve doctors who had prescribed a drug 12 improperly?
- 13 A. Yes, Number 4.
- 14 Q. What's the caption of that case?
- 15 A. Mark Haigh, Mark and Susan
- 16 Beckstrand versus Shopko involved a prescription
- 17 of a drug. I don't remember the name of it off
- 18 the top of my head. It's been a while. But was
- 19 involved with whether improper dose had been 20 administered to somebody.
- 21 Q. What was the injury alleged in that 22 case?
- 23 A. It was vision loss, I believe.
- Q. And what was the opinion that you
- 25 rendered in that litigation?

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 (Pomeranz 3, Medical Malpractice
- Expert Witness Cases that have gone to trial by Dr. Pomeranz, marked for
- 5 identification.)
- 6 MS. LESKIN: I will get you a copy.
- 7 I don't have a copy.
- 8 MR. BECNEL: No problem.
- 9 A. Let's see. First case --
- 10 Q. Which case is that?
- 11 A. Number 1, medical malpractice,
- 12 Roegge Meahger & Geer, I believe -- yes, all
- 13 three of these were malpractice cases. Two --
- 14 Q. I'm sorry. Those are the cases that 15 went to trial; correct?
- 16 A. That went to trial, right.
- 17 Q. Those are all medical malpractice
- 18 cases?
- 19 A. Two of them where I was on the side
- 20 for the physician who was being sued. And then
- 21 the third one, Number 3, the Bailey attorney with
- 22 the Cutlip versus Mayer, was on the side of a
- 23 patient who was suing a physician over refractive 24 surgery.
- Q. I don't necessarily need to know the

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 A. Let me think about it.
- 3 O. Well, let me --
- 4 A. If I remember correctly, I think it
- 5 was -- the crux of the case was that the
- 6 medication that was prescribed had something to
- 7 do with a visual problem the patient had. And I
- 8 felt that there was not a connection that it was
- 9 dose-related or something related -- I don't
- 10 remember the exact details.
- 11 Q. So was your testimony related to the 12 standard of care for the physician, or was your
- 13 testimony related to the causality as between the
- 14 medication and the injury?
- 15 A. The latter, the causality.
- 16 Q. Can you describe for me the nature
- 17 of your practice right now?
- 18 A. I'm a full-time practicing physician
- 19 employed by North Shore Long Island Jewish Health
- 20 System out on Long Island. And I see a mixture
- 21 of general ophthalmology patients and patients
- 22 with neuro-ophthalmic problems.
- 23 I'm involved in teaching and
- 24 training residents in the ophthalmology residency
- 25 training program there as well as medical

Howard Pomeranz

2 students and residents in other programs at the 3 hospital too besides ophthalmology.

- How many hours do you spend each 5 week seeing patients?
- Pretty much full-time. Nine to five 7 pretty much. Four to five days a week.
- How much time do you spend teaching?
- Well, some of the teaching is 10 coincidental with that because we have residents 11 who spend time with us while seeing patients. So
- 12 it's hard to dissect all that.
- 13 But I also am in charge of seeing 14 consultations in the hospital and, after seeing 15 patients in the office, go with the residents to 16 see patients in the hospital, usually several 17 hours a week. And I'm involved in giving 18 lectures and teaching as well.
- 19 That was my next question.
- 20 Do you give any classes or seminars?
- A. Yes -- well, part of any resident's 21 22 curriculum are certain number of hours of 23 didactics and lectures and teaching, which I'm 24 involved in as well.
- Q. Is there a specific course that you

- Howard Pomeranz
 - 2 training program, but not a formal course as part 3 of the university?

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21

- A. Correct.
- 5 O. When you were at the University of 6 Maryland, did you teach a course as opposed to 7 just giving lectures?
- A. No, just the same as the others.
- Do you do any research as part of 10 your duties right now?
- Currently, no. Because of -- my 11 12 time as a full-time clinician where I am now 13 really doesn't allow me to do that; but when I 14 was in Minnesota, I had the opportunity to do 15 that.
- 16 Have you ever conducted any clinical 17 trials? I'm specifically looking at clinical 18 trials where you're comparing a group of patients 19 taking a drug versus a group of patients not 20 taking a drug. So any clinical trials on Viagra?
- 21 Not on Viagra. But I've been
- 22 involved in clinical trials that other
- 23 neuro-ophthalmologists have been involved in that
- 24 are multicenter trials of different sorts. Two
- 25 of or three of them I've been involved in.

- Howard Pomeranz
- 2 teach currently?
- A. I teach about neuro-ophthalmology.
- 4 I basically give lectures about
- 5 neuro-ophthalmology diagnosis, patient
- 6 management, things of that sort.
- Is that a specific course or is that 8 just lectures that you give during the course of 9 your --
- 10 A. Lectures that I've given.
- So you don't have any specific 11 Q.
- 12 course that you teach right now?
- Correct. 13 A.
- 14 When you were at the University of Q. 15 Minnesota, did you have any courses that you 16 taught?
- Only as much as what was part of the 18 residents' education there. And I have a series
- 19 of prepared lectures and a binder that has
- 20 assigned articles for the residents to read. I
- 21 don't know if you really want to call that a
- 22 course as opposed to just reading assignments for
- 23 discussion and learning for the residents in the 24 training program.
- That was for the residents in the

- **Howard Pomeranz** 1
 - 2 My question was much more limited.
 - 3 Have you done any clinical trials on
 - 4 Viagra?

- 5 A. No.
- Have you done any clinical trials on 7 any other PDE5 inhibitor?
- A. No.
- Q. Have you done any studies in animals 10 using sildenafil?
- 11 A. No.
- Have you done any studies in animals 12 13 using any other PDE5 inhibitor?
- 14 No. A.
- 15 O. Have you done any studies measuring 16 blood flow to the ocular vessels?
- Not in any direct way. Though some 18 of the research that I did in Minnesota involved
- 19 an animal model for ischemic optic neuropathy
- 20 where we were inducing changes in blood flow in
- 21 that model, but we weren't measuring changes in 22 blood flow as a part of that model. It wasn't
- 23 one of the objects of the research.
- 24 Is that the model that's commonly
- 25 called now the Bernstein rat model?

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1	Howard Pomeranz	
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- A. Yes.

 Q. So then, just to be clear, you have
- 4 not done any studies measuring ocular blood flow?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. I would take it, then, that you 7 haven't done any studies measuring ocular blood 8 flow following use of sildenafil?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. Have you any studies measuring blood 11 flow following the use of sildenafil to any other 12 part of the body?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Have you yourself done any 15 epidemiological studies?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Have you conducted any studies on 18 male erectile dysfunction?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Have you done any research on the 21 relationship between erectile dysfunction -- on 22 the relationship, if any, between erectile 23 dysfunction and ischemic optic neuropathy?
- 24 A. Other than the case reports that 25 I've published, no.

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 of Minnesota letterhead.
 - Q. Yes, I think I saw it before.
- 4 Is this the document you were 5 referring to?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 MS. LESKIN: We'll mark that as an exhibit.

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- Q. Do you mind if I mark the original?
- 10 A. No, that's okay.
- 11 (Pomeranz 4, Memorandum dated April
- 12 7, 2004, to Attorneys from Pomeranz, marked
- 13 for identification.)
- MS. LESKIN: We're marking as
- 15 Pomeranz Exhibit 4 a memorandum on
- 16 University of Minnesota letterhead dated
- 17 April 7, 2004, to attorneys from Howard
- 18 Pomeranz, M.D., re list of attorneys with
- 19 clients with Viagra/NAION cases.
- Q. And I'll show that to you. That's
- 21 the list you were referring to; correct?
- 22 A. That's right.
- 23 Q. And as of 2004, how many of those
- 24 attorneys had you actually looked at cases for?
- 25 A. All of them.

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Q. In the documents that you provided
- 3 us today, there is a lot of correspondence
- 4 between you and various attorneys about potential
- 5 litigation involving Viagra or other PDE5
- 6 inhibitors and ischemic optic neuropathy.
- When was the very first time you can 8 recall being contacted by an attorney in
- 9 connection with such litigation?
- 10 A. Probably around the time that my 11 first case series was published.
- 12 Q. The first case series or the first
- 13 case report?
- 14 A. The first case series, which I
- 15 believe was in 2001. And around that time, I 16 don't remember if it was just before or sometime
- 17 after, somewhere around 2001, 2002, I started to 18 receive some inquiries.
- 19 Q. Do you remember who the first 20 attorneys you were -- you spoke with?
- 21 A. No, but I think I gave you a list
- 22 of I think around that time, when I was at 23 Minnesota, of a number of attorneys who had
- 24 contacted me. I don't remember who contacted me
- 25 first, but it's on the list. It's on University

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Q. And how many of those attorneys had 3 you actually given opinions to?
- 4 A. Two or three of them. And I think
- 5 those were the affidavits that I gave you copies 6 of that were relevant.
- 7 Q. The first name on the list is Ronald 8 Benjamin. When was the last time you spoke with 9 Mr. Benjamin?
- 10 A. Probably three, four years ago.
- 11 Q. What material did Mr. Benjamin give 12 you in connection with the case he was working 13 on?
- 14 A. Medical records.
- 15 Q. Do you remember the patient's name?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Does Lloyd Livingston sound 18 familiar?
- 19 A. That may be it. Actually, I don't 20 have on this list the name of the patient who
- 21 goes with each one, so --
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 (Pomeranz 5, Plaintiff's Expert
- 24 Disclosure pursuant to CPLR SEC. 3101(d),
- 25 marked for identification.)

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 MS. LESKIN: We've marked as

3 Exhibit 5 the document entitled,

- 4 "Plaintiff's Expert Disclosure Pursuant to
- 5 CPLR Section 3101(d)" in the case entitled,
- 6 "Lloyd Livingston versus Pfizer," Supreme
- 7 Court of the State of New York.
- 8 Q. Have you ever seen this document 9 before?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. And if you look at paragraph 1,
- 12 Mr. Livingston identified the name of plaintiff's
- 13 expert as Howard Pomeranz. Do you understand
- 14 that the Dr. Pomeranz he's referring to is you?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And in fact, he's attached a copy of 17 your CV to this report; correct?
- 18 A. That's it. It's an old one, but 19 that's it.
- 20 Q. If you look at the report,
- 21 paragraph 2 says -- actually page 2 says that
- 22 "Dr. Pomeranz will opine that the plaintiff,
- 23 Lloyd Livingston, suffers from a decreased visual
- 24 field in his right eye, which significantly
- 25 impairs his vision in that eye."

26 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Viagra and the onset of plaintiff's visual
- 3 impairment, Viagra was a significant factor in
- 4 bringing about the optic neuropathy and resultant

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- 5 decreased visual field and visual impairment the 6 plaintiff sustained."
- 7 Right?
- 8 A. That's what it says.
- 9 Q. Is that consistent with the opinion 10 you provided to Mr. Benjamin about
- 11 Mr. Livingston?
- 12 A. Most likely, yes.
- 13 Q. When you gave this opinion to
- 14 Mr. Benjamin, had you met Mr. Livingston?
- 15 A. No, I just reviewed the records.
- 16 Q. And you reviewed medical records 17 provided to you by Mr. Benjamin?
- 18 A. Yes, or someone in his office.
- 19 Q. So you never examined Mr. Livingston 20 yourself?
- 21 A. Correct.

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- 22 Q. Looking at the bottom of the second
- 23 page, that last paragraph, the disclosure says,
- 24 "Dr. Pomeranz will further testify that he
- 25 arrived at his opinion that the plaintiff

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Is that the opinion you gave to 3 Mr. Benjamin regarding Mr. Livingston?
- 4 A. I'm not sure that I actually wrote a 5 written opinion on this, but I think this may be 6 one of the cases that may be included in one of 7 the case series that I wrote up.
- 8 Q. Looking at the information that is 9 in this report, can you determine with any 10 certainty whether this is one of the cases in
- 11 your case series?

16 to see if it matches up.

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- 12 A. It doesn't have the patient's age in 13 it, so -- it may be, but I'd have to compare it 14 to the table that was in one of the -- the second 15 case series that had a listing of all the cases
- 17 I wrote these cases up a number of 18 years ago, so unless I go back through all my 19 records, I can't remember if it's exactly the 20 same person, but it may be.
- 21 Q. Looking at the fourth paragraph on 22 the page, the disclosure says, "Dr. Pomeranz will 23 opine that given the plaintiff's history of 24 hypertension, cup-to-disc ratio, and the temporal

25 relationship between the plaintiff's ingestion of

- Howard Pomeranz
- 2 sustained this condition secondary to his
- 3 ingestion of Viagra only after carrying out a
- 4 differential diagnosis after which he was able to
- 5 exclude alternative causes of this condition, and
- 6 as such will testify within a reasonable degree
- 7 of medical certainty that Viagra was a
- 8 significant factor in causing plaintiff's optic
- 9 neuropathy and visual impairment."
- 10 Is that consistent with the opinion
- 11 you gave to Mr. Benjamin's office?12 A. Yes, as much as you can extract from
- 13 reviewing the medical records that were provided.

 14 O. And sitting here today, do you
- 14 Q. And sitting here today, do you 15 recall what other alternative causes you were 16 able to rule out in reviewing Mr. Livingston's 17 records?
- 18 A. Well, whenever somebody has an optic 19 nerve problem, there are many other things 20 besides ischemic optic neuropathy that could be
- 21 the cause. I won't enumerate, but there's
- 22 probably a half a dozen other things that need to
- 23 be eliminated as potential causes of optic nerve 24 disease that are considered in any patient that
- 25 presents with visual loss.

^{8 (}Pages 26 to 29)

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1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Q. You were able to, from looking at 3 the medical records, exclude those as causes of 4 Mr. Livingston's ischemic optic neuropathy?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. And from reviewing the medical 7 records, were you able to in fact diagnose
- 8 Mr. Livingston with ischemic optic neuropathy?
- 9 A. Yes, to the degree that the 10 information was provided to me to be able to do 11 that.
- 12 Q. And so sitting here today, you don't 13 recall what information was actually provided to 14 you?
- 15 A. No. I'd have to look through the 16 medical records again. But suffice it to say, if 17 I came to that conclusion, I was -- I felt that I 18 had enough information that was provided to me to 19 make that diagnosis.
- 20 MR. BECNEL: Lori, are we
- 21 cross-noticing these in the -- I don't know
- what's going on in the New York State.
- 23 This looks like a New York State. Is
- 24 this --
- MS. LESKIN: This is an old case.

Howard Pomeranz

2 is provided to me. I've had some cases where 3 I've had a stack of paper several inches high,

- 4 and it takes time to read through all of that.
- 5 Some of the cases, it's considerably less. So it 6 really depends on how much volume of records it 7 takes to read through.
- 8 Q. And do you keep track of the time 9 spent on each case by individual files? Do you 10 have a master list for all your litigation cases? 11 How do you keep track of your time?
- 12 A. Just per case that I review. I just 13 keep track of how much time I've taken reading 14 the records and then how much time I've spent 15 writing up a report if one is requested.
- 16 Q. Do you have a formal ledger you 17 write this information in or a spreadsheet on 18 your computer?
- 19 A. No, I just keep track of the time. 20 And then when I'm completed with reviewing the 21 case and writing a report, I'll just create a 22 bill of some sort to send to whoever sent the 23 records to review.
- Q. In looking -- taking a brief look --and we'll take another look during the break --

31

- **Howard Pomeranz**
- It's long since been dismissed.
- 3 MR. BECNEL: I just don't know about
- 4 it.

1

2

- 5 MS. LESKIN: Okav.
- 6 BY MS. LESKIN:
- 7 Q. Did you receive any compensation 8 from Mr. Benjamin in connection with the work 9 done in the Livingston case?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you know how much?
- 12 A. I don't remember. I bill per hour 13 of time that I spend reviewing records. So it 14 might have been a few hours of time most likely.
- 15 Q. Would you have any records today 16 that revealed how much time you spent on 17 Mr. Livingston's case?
- 18 A. It may be in the information I 19 provided you, or it might be in the other piles 20 of voluminous material I have in my office that I 21 still haven't combed through.
- 22 Q. Generally when reviewing these 23 cases, how long does it take you to review the 24 records and come up with an opinion?
- 25 A. It depends on how much information

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 through the documents you provided this morning, 3 I didn't see any other documents referencing the 4 Livingston case. Would you have that back at 5 your office?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 MS. LESKIN: We would request 8 information regarding the total number of
 - hours you spent and the total money
- 10 received in connection with the Livingston
- 11 case.

9

12 DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTED:

- 13 A. If I still have information 14 available, I'll provide it to you. If it was 15 done three, four years ago, I may not have it 16 anymore. If I have it, I'll happily provide it 17 to you.
- 18 Q. Appreciate it.
- MR. BECNEL: Just so we get this,
- 20 this was while you were in Minnesota still?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Depending on exactly
- 22 what year it was sent to me. If it was in
- 23 2001, it might have been while I was still
- in Maryland, hadn't moved to Minnesota yet.
 - If it was beyond the middle of 2001, then

33

32

9 (Pages 30 to 33)

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 it would have been when I was in Minnesota.3 BY MS. LESKIN:
- 4 Q. For the record, the address on your 5 CV is in Baltimore, Maryland.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. Were you still living in Baltimore 8 at the time you moved to Minnesota or -- your 9 practice to Minnesota or did you --
- 10 A. I moved there in July of 2001.
- 11 Q. So this is dated May of 2001. So 12 that would be -- you would still be at the 13 University of Maryland?
- 14 A. Right.
- 15 Q. After providing Mr. Benjamin with 16 this expert opinion, did you have any further 17 contact with Mr. Benjamin?
- 18 A. No. Other than I recall chasing him 19 down a few times to actually pay me for reviewing 20 his records for him; but other than that, no.
- 21 (Pomeranz 6, Affidavit of Howard
- Pomeranz, M.D., Ph.D, dated September, 3,
- 23 2002, marked for identification.)
- MS. LESKIN: We're marking as
- 25 Exhibit 6 a document entitled, "Affidavit

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 did you first have contact with Miss Littlepage's 3 office regarding David Hall?
- 4 A. I really don't remember exactly.
 5 Probably sometime in the months before this
 6 report was written.
- 7 Q. And did you ever meet Mr. Hall?
- 8 A. That's a good question. I think if 9 I had examined him, I would have included that in 10 my report. So probably no. I think this was
- 11 just on the basis of reviewing medical records.
- 12 Q. In fact, if I represented to you 13 that Mr. Hall has testified that he's never 14 spoken to you, would that be consistent with your 15 recollection?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Who provided you with the medical 18 records you reviewed for Mr. Hall?
- 19 A. Well, I guess, if you look at this20 list here, if this was from Littlepage in21 Houston, it would have been this individual named
- 22 Chetna Gosain.Q. You didn't go get any medical
- 24 records on your own; right?
 25 A. Correct.

35

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 of Howard Pomeranz," dated September 3,
- 3 2002.

1

- 4 Q. Do you recognize this document?
- 5 A. I do.
- 6 Q. And I believe, from reading through 7 the context of the text of it, that this was 8 provided for David Hall?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. David Hall was represented -- or is 11 represented by Zoe Littlepage's office. Were you 12 aware of that?
- 13 A. Yes. I think that's where the 14 records were sent to me from to review.
- 15 Q. Have you ever met with 16 Miss Littlepage?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Have you ever met with any attorneys 19 in her office?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Have you ever spoken on the phone 22 with any of the attorneys from her office?
- 23 A. Perhaps just for them to initially 24 contact me to ask me if I would review the case.
- 25 Q. How long before September 3, 2002,

- 1 Howard Pomeranz
- 2 Q. And the records that you list here 3 on paragraph 5, were those the only medical 4 records you reviewed?
- 5 A. Yes. I think I would have listed 6 everything that they provided to me.
- 7 Q. Did you ask for any additional 8 medical records?
- 9 A. Well, I asked them to send me 10 everything that was available. And sometimes 11 when I review the records, if I feel that there's 12 information missing that would be helpful to me
- 13 in writing the report, for instance, pharmacy 14 records -- sometimes I've asked for pictures of
- 15 the optic nerve if they were taken in an
- 16 ophthalmologist's office so I actually see what
- 17 the optic nerve looked like if a picture was 18 taken at the time the patient was seen.
- Sometimes that information may not 20 have been provided to me initially and I may have 21 gone back and asked if that was available for me 22 to review so I had a really complete record to 23 review.
- 24 Q. Were you paid for preparing this 25 affidavit for Mr. Hall?

10 (Pages 34 to 37)

37

38 1 **Howard Pomeranz** 1 **Howard Pomeranz** 2 A. 2 medical records you reviewed for Mr. Grant? 3 Q. Do you know how much you were paid? A. Yes. If there were more, I would 4 Not off the top of my head, but --A. 4 have listed them. 5 Q. Can you give me an approximate Q. And those were provided to you by 6 range? 6 Miss Littlepage's office? 7 A. Probably a few thousand dollars. 7 A. Correct. 8 based on the number of hours I spent reviewing. 8 Were you paid for preparing this Q. Do you know how many hours you spent 9 report for Jimmy Grant? 10 reviewing Mr. Hall's records? 10 A. Yes. 11 A. I don't recall. 11 Q. Do you know how much you were paid? (Pomeranz 7, Affidavit of Howard 12 12 A. Again, don't recall the exact Pomeranz, M.D., Ph.D, September 30, 2002, 13 13 figure. But it's probably something on the same 14 marked for identification.) 14 order as with Mr. Hall's records. 15 MS. LESKIN: We're marking as Do you have records back in your 16 Exhibit 7 an affidavit of Howard Pomeranz 16 office or in your home office that would indicate 17 dated September the 30th, 2002, revised 17 the amount of hours you spent on either Mr. Hall 18 February 5, 2003, to correct a 18 or Mr. Grant's records? 19 typographical error in Item 16. 19 A. Yes. If I still have the bill that 20 Do you recognize this affidavit? Q. 20 I generated, usually it will say on there the 21 A. 21 hourly rate times number of hours for the amount. 22 Q. And this, again looking through the 22 So it would indicate how many hours I spent on 23 text, refers to Jimmy Grant; correct? 23 it. 24 A. Correct. 24 MS. LESKIN: We would make the 25 Q. If I represent to you that Mr. Grant 25 request for any records you still have 39 Howard Pomeranz 1 **Howard Pomeranz** 2 regarding the amount of hours and the 3 amount of money you billed for Mr. Grant's A. Yes. 4 case and Mr. Hall's case. And do you remember when you first 5 DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTED: 6 A. Okay. 7 Probably sometime in the same time 8

2 is also represented by Miss Littlepage's office, 3 would that be consistent with your recollection? 4 6 spoke with anyone from Miss Littlepage's office 7 regarding Jimmy Grant? 9 period as the other one, probably before or 10 after. I don't recall exactly. 11 Did you ever examine Jimmy Grant? Q. 12 A. 13 Did you ever meet Jimmy Grant? Q. 14 A. No. 15 Q. Did you ever speak to Jimmy Grant? 16 I may have spoken to him. I know I 17 spoke to one or two people briefly on the phone. 18 I don't remember if it was him or somebody else. 19 O. And what was the nature of the 20 conversation? Probably something on the order of a 22 review of what my findings were, what my opinions 23 were regarding his case. 24 On paragraph 5, you've listed four

25 groups of medical records. Are those the only

MR. BECNEL: Dr. Pomeranz, why don't you just make a note of the requests she's 9 making so we don't forget about it. 10 MS. LESKIN: We'll follow up. 11 MR. PENTON: Follow up with a 12 letter. 13 MS. LESKIN: I appreciate it. 14 (Pomeranz 8, Affidavit of Howard 15 Pomeranz, M.D., Ph.D, dated February 22, 16 2005, marked for identification.) 17 MS. LESKIN: We've marked as 18 Exhibit 8 an affidavit of Howard D. 19 Pomeranz dated February 22, 2005. 20 Do you recognize this affidavit? Q. 21 A. And again, looking through, this is 22 Q. 23 in relation to Charles Sansone? 24 A. Yes. 25 And I guess I should ask you, the Q.

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4.	2
1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
2 second page, is that your signature?	2 reflect the amount of time and the amount
3 A. Yes.	3 of money received for Mr. Sansone's case.
4 Q. Can you take a look at the signature	1 4 A Okay
5 on Exhibits 7 and 6 as well and confirm those are	5 DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTED:
6 yours?	6 (Pomeranz 9, Expert Report of Howard
7 A. Yes.	7 D. Pomeranz, M.D., Ph.D, Pursuant to
8 Q. Again, I'll represent to you that	8 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
9 Mr. Sansone is also represented by, among other	
10 people, Miss Littlepage's office. Is that	9 26(a)(2)(B), marked for identification.) 10 MS. LESKIN: We've marked as
11 consistent with your recollection?	
12 A. Yes.	
13 Q. Do you know how far how long	The state of the s
14 before February 22, 2005, you first had contact	of Civil Hoodday
15 with any of Mr. Sansone's attorneys regarding his	
16 case?	The state of the s
17 A. I really don't recall exactly, but	16 first page, but do you recognize starting the
18 again, probably would have been several months	17 second page?
19 before this was written.	18 A. Yes.
20 Q. Did you ever examine Mr. Sansone?	19 Q. And is that your signature?
21 A. No.	20 A. Yes.
22 Q. Did you ever meet with Mr. Sansone?	21 Q. And did you in fact prepare this
23 A. No.	22 report?
24 Q. Did you ever speak to Mr. Sansone?	23 A. Yes.
25 A. I don't believe so.	Q. And did you write this report on
25 71. I don't believe so.	25 your own or did someone help you?
43	45
1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
2 Q. And in paragraph 5, you list four	2 A. No, I wrote it on my own.
3 doctors whose medical records you reviewed. Were	3 Q. When were you first contacted about
4 there any other medical records that you reviewed	4 the need for this report that we've marked as
5 for Mr. Sansone?	5 Exhibit 9?
6 A. No. These would be the ones that I	6 A. Probably about maybe a month or
7 listed there.	7 at most two months before this was written.
8 Q. And those were again provided to you	8 Q. And who contacted you?
9 by Mr. Sansone's attorneys?	9 A. I believe it was Mr. Penton's
10 A. Correct.	10 office.
11 Q. And were you paid to review the	11 Q. Had you spoken with anyone from
12 records and prepare this affidavit?	12 Mr. Penton's office prior to that time?
13 A. Yes.	13 A. About this specifically or about
14 Q. And sitting here today, do you	14 anything?
15 recall how much money you received for preparing	15 Q. About anything.
16 the record the affidavit for Mr. Sansone?	16 A. Yes. His office had been in contact
17 A. Again, probably a few thousand	17 with me prior to writing this.
18 dollars for several hours of time, but I don't	1
10 dollars for several hours of time. Diff I fight	
19 recall the exact figure.	18 Q. What was your understanding of the
19 recall the exact figure.	18 Q. What was your understanding of the 19 need for this report, why it was necessary?
19 recall the exact figure. 20 Q. Would you have a record of how long	18 Q. What was your understanding of the 19 need for this report, why it was necessary? 20 A. To provide an opinion for the legal
19 recall the exact figure. 20 Q. Would you have a record of how long 21 you spent and how much money you received either	18 Q. What was your understanding of the 19 need for this report, why it was necessary? 20 A. To provide an opinion for the legal 21 case that was being put forward on behalf of the
19 recall the exact figure. 20 Q. Would you have a record of how long 21 you spent and how much money you received either 22 in the home or at your office?	18 Q. What was your understanding of the 19 need for this report, why it was necessary? 20 A. To provide an opinion for the legal 21 case that was being put forward on behalf of the 22 patients.
19 recall the exact figure. 20 Q. Would you have a record of how long 21 you spent and how much money you received either	18 Q. What was your understanding of the 19 need for this report, why it was necessary? 20 A. To provide an opinion for the legal 21 case that was being put forward on behalf of the

request documents relating to -- that would

25

25

A. I believe it was about a year ago.

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1

1 **Howard Pomeranz**

- 2 Q. So June of 2006?
- 3 Give or take a month or two. A.
- 4 Q. Had you ever met Mr. Becnel?
- 5 A.

1

- 6 Q. Are you familiar with what a 7 multidistrict litigation is?
- I think I am now; but a year or two 9 ago, I had no clue as to what it was.
- You understand there's several 11 different lawyers on behalf of several different 12 plaintiffs involved in the multidistrict 13 litigation?
- 14 A. I understand that now. In fact, a 15 year or two ago, as I made contact with various 16 attorneys for these documents that you brought 17 forward here, I was trying to figure out where 18 this was all going, were these going to be 19 individual cases, were they talking to one 20 another and so on. So I kind of felt until maybe 21 about a year ago, I had no idea what was really 22 going on.
- 23 Was that one of the reasons for your 24 preparing this list in 2004 that we've marked as 25 Pomeranz Exhibit 4?

Howard Pomeranz

2 A. I think I probably did a literature 3 search to make sure that I was up to date on 48

49

4 things that had been published up to that point.

- How many hours did you spend 6 preparing this report that we've marked as 7 Exhibit 9?
- A. I believe probably five, six, seven 9 hours, something at least on that order of amount 10 of time.
- 11 Q. How much money have you received 12 from the plaintiffs' lawyers in connection with 13 this report?
- 14 A. Well, it would have been 5- or 15 \$6,000, something in that order. I can remember 16 basically it was at a thousand dollars an hour, 17 whatever that worked out to.
- Q. Do you have copies of bills or 19 invoices or records that you've kept that 20 indicate how long you've spent on this 21 litigation?
- 22 A. For this I have, because it's very 23 recent. So I'm sure I have that.
- 24 MS. LESKIN: We would request copies 25 of any bills that indicate how many hours

Howard Pomeranz

A. I don't know if it was so much that, 3 as some of the attorneys I think had called me to 4 ask me if I knew of other cases. And after 5 getting a few of these, I said, Look here, you 6 guys just -- you know, go talk to one another, 7 whatever, and figure it out. I'll give you the 8 names of who's contacted me and you all can get 9 together and figure out how you're going to sort 10 this out.

Q. 11 Other than the four specific cases 12 we've marked affidavits for, have you prepared 13 affidavits for any other cases involving Viagra 14 and ischemic optic neuropathy?

15 I don't think so. In fact, these 16 that you provided me I think I've given you as 17 well. It's what I was able to pull out of my 18 records yesterday. I think I may have spoken on 19 the phone about some of them, but I'm not sure if 20 in any other cases I was asked to prepare any 21 formal reports.

22 Okay. At the time you prepared this 23 report we've marked as Exhibit 9, did you do any 24 additional research other than the reading you 25 had already done?

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 and how much money you've received from 3

whichever plaintiffs' lawyer has been

4 paying your bills in connection with this

5 report that we marked as Exhibit 9. 6 DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTED:

A. Okay.

MR. BECNEL: Counsel, at a break --

9 I may have those at my office and I can 10

have them fax them here for you.

11 MS. LESKIN: That would be great.

12 Thank you.

13 BY MS. LESKIN:

Q. In total, and I understand that 15 you've been dealing with lots of different 16 lawyers, how many hours have you spent -- let's 17 start so far this year in 2007, on litigation 18 relating to ischemic optic neuropathy and PDE5 19 inhibitors?

20 A. It's hard to say exactly. I sent a 21 CD-ROM with some documents. I think a lot of 22 them were Pfizer-related documents that I think I 23 spent several days of time reading through in 24 between other things I was doing in my office. 25 So it's hard to put an exact number

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 on it, but -- I don't know, 50, 60, 70 hours. I 3 don't know. A lot of it is done on nights and 4 weekends. I really don't have time to do this 5 much during normal office hours because I'm busy 6 with patients, so that's when I've been doing 7 most of this.

- 8 Q. Would those hours be reflected in 9 the same documents that reflect the total hours 10 spent on --
- 11 A. No, I haven't created any bill with 12 respect to the time spent on looking at all the 13 recent litigation-related stuff that's been sent 14 to me. I don't know if I will or not, but I 15 really just spent more time -- things that I've 16 billed has been more for either reports that I've 17 written or things that are more concrete than 18 that.
- 19 Q. So how much money have you received 20 so far in 2007 in connection with litigation 21 relating to ischemic optic neuropathy and PDE5 22 inhibitors?
- 23 A. Probably something on the order of 24 maybe \$10,000.
- Q. And how much money in 2006 did you

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 know, maybe 20-, \$30,000. Maybe that much. I'm 3 not sure.

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- 4 Q. You received about 10,000 this year 5 and 10-, 15- or 20,000 last year. You had not 6 received any money prior to 2006?
- 7 A. No, I did, but they were relatively 8 small amounts for a few hours spent on cases here 9 and there. So it wasn't anything that really 10 amounted to any large amounts of time other than 11 just case reviews.

12 (Pomeranz 10, Article entitled, "Can 13 Erectile Dysfunction Drug Use Lead to 14 Ischaemic Optic Neuropathy?" by Howard 15 Pomeranz, marked for identification.)

MS. LESKIN: I've marked as
Exhibit 10 an article by H.D. Pomeranz in
the British Journal of Ophthalmology 2006.

19 Q. This is your article; correct?

20 A. Yes.

51

21 Q. Take a look at the end of the

22 article, at the list of references. Under

23 "Competing interests," it says, "HP" -- I'm 24 assuming that refers to you -- "has been paid as

25 a consultant for reviewing cases of NAION

Howard Pomeranz

2 receive in connection with litigation relating to 3 ischemic optic neuropathy and PDE5 inhibitors?

4 A. Probably something on the same 5 order. Probably -- maybe 10, 15, maybe 20. I 6 don't remember the exact amount.

7 Q. And do you have records that reflect 8 the amount of money you received?

9 A. Yes.

MS. LESKIN: We would ask for copies of any records that reflect the amount of

money you've received both in 2007, 2006.

And in fact, we would ask for monies you've

14 received in connection with ischemic optic

15 neuropathy litigation and PDE5 going back

16 to 2000, if you have those records.

17 DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTED:

18 A. If I have them available, I'll make 19 them available to you.

20 Q. Appreciate it.

21 Since the very first case you worked 22 on relating to Viagra or any other PDE5 inhibitor

23 and ischemic optic neuropathy, how much would you 24 estimate in total you've received?

A. I'm not really sure, but, I don't

Howard Pomeranz 2 associated with EDD use."

3 I assume that's erectile dysfunction 4 drug use?

5 A. Yes, if that's what the 6 abbreviation -- yes, erectile dysfunction drugs 7 in the first paragraph.

8 Q. And the payments that you refer to 9 here, does that refer to the litigation payments 10 that we've been talking about?

11 A. Yes. Or the case reviews that we've 12 been talking about, yes.

13 Q. Were there any other -- have you 14 served as a consultant for any other purpose 15 other than the case reviews and litigations we've 16 been talking about?

17 A. Well --

18 Q. Relating to NAION and --

19 A. No. I've reviewed other cases about 20 other matters, but that's what this is referring 21 to.

MR. BECNEL: Counsel, are you limiting to the work he did for Pfizer as a

24 guest speaker on this?

MS. LESKIN: I'm referring to what

14 (Pages 50 to 53)

CASE 0.00-CV-01004-PAIN DOCUMENT	42-4 lieu 07/00/03 rage 13 01 40
54	56
1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
2 he has listed there.	2 published in the Archives of Ophthalmology,
3 MR. BECNEL: All right.	3 May 2006, entitled, "Nonarteritic Anterior
4 (Pomeranz 11, Article entitled,	4 Ischemic Optic Neuropathy and Sildenafil."
5 "Nonarteritic Ischemic Optic Neuropathy	5 Q. This is your article; correct?
6 Developing Soon After Use of Sildenafil	6 A. I'm a coauthor.
· -	
	1
8 Howard Pomeranz, et al., marked for	8 contributions," it says, "The authors had full
9 identification.)	9 access to all the reports reviewed for the study
MS. LESKIN: We've marked as Exhibit	10 and take responsibility for the integrity of the
Pomeranz Exhibit 11 an article by Howard D.	11 data and the accuracy of the data analysis."
12 Pomeranz and Abdhish Bhavsar	That includes you; correct?
13 Q. Did I pronounce that correctly?	13 A. Correct.
14 A. Yes.	14 Q. Under "Financial disclosure," it
15 MS. LESKIN: "Nonarteritic	15 says, "None"; correct?
16 Ischemic Optic Neuropathy Developing Soon	16 A. Correct. There's no financial
17 After Use of Sildenafil (Viagra): A Report	17 interest in looking through these drug
18 of Seven New Cases," published in the	18 directories here that are being referred to in
19 Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology 2005.	19 this editorial.
20 Q. This is your article; correct?	20 Q. My question was simply, under
21 A. Yes.	21 "Financial disclosures," you wrote, "None";
22 Q. Did you make any financial	22 correct?
23 disclosure in this article similar to the one	23 MR. BECNEL: Objection.
24 we've looked at in the British Journal of	24 Repetitious.
25 Ophthalmology?	25 JUDGE BORG: Overruled.
25 Spiritamiology.	25 JODGE BORG. OVERLING.
55	67
1 Howard Pomeranz	57 1 Howard Pomeranz
1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None."
 Howard Pomeranz A. No. Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the
 Howard Pomeranz A. No. Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question.
 Howard Pomeranz A. No. Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint
 Howard Pomeranz A. No. Q. So you didn't disclose that you were consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you published this article in the Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy:
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No. 3 Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 6 Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 7 A. Correct.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy: 7 What are your patients eating and what meds
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No. 3 Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 6 Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 7 A. Correct. 8 MR. BECNEL: Nor for defendants.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy: 7 What are your patients eating and what meds 8 are they taking?" by Howard Pomeranz,
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No. 3 Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 6 Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 7 A. Correct. 8 MR. BECNEL: Nor for defendants. 9 MS. LESKIN: Counsel, I object to	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy: 7 What are your patients eating and what meds 8 are they taking?" by Howard Pomeranz, 9 marked for identification.)
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No. 3 Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 6 Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 7 A. Correct. 8 MR. BECNEL: Nor for defendants. 9 MS. LESKIN: Counsel, I object to 10 your making comments not related to the	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy: 7 What are your patients eating and what meds 8 are they taking?" by Howard Pomeranz, 9 marked for identification.) 10 MS. LESKIN: Marked as Exhibit 13 is
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No. 3 Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 6 Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 7 A. Correct. 8 MR. BECNEL: Nor for defendants. 9 MS. LESKIN: Counsel, I object to 10 your making comments not related to the 11 litigation during a deposition.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy: 7 What are your patients eating and what meds 8 are they taking?" by Howard Pomeranz, 9 marked for identification.) 10 MS. LESKIN: Marked as Exhibit 13 is 11 a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Optic
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. No. 3 Q. So you didn't disclose that you were 4 consulting for plaintiffs in litigation when you 5 published this article in the Journal of 6 Neuro-Ophthalmology; is that correct? 7 A. Correct. 8 MR. BECNEL: Nor for defendants. 9 MS. LESKIN: Counsel, I object to 10 your making comments not related to the 11 litigation during a deposition. 12 MR. BECNEL: It is related.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. It says, "None." 3 JUDGE BORG: You can answer the 4 question. 5 (Pomeranz 13, PowerPoint 6 presentation entitled, "Optic Neuropathy: 7 What are your patients eating and what meds 8 are they taking?" by Howard Pomeranz, 9 marked for identification.) 10 MS. LESKIN: Marked as Exhibit 13 is 11 a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Optic 12 Neuropathy: What are your patients eating
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1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 off the Internet, off the NANO's website. And it
- 3 indicated it's from a meeting in November of 4 2006.
- 5 A. Yes, it was actually at a symposium
- 6 where there were multiple speakers. And
- 7 traditionally NANO sponsors or cosponsors one of
- 8 those symposia at the academy meeting every year
- 9 and I was invited to be a speaker at this 10 symposium.
- 11 Q. And this is your presentation at 12 that meeting?
- 13 A. That's right.
- 14 Q. If you look at page 2, under
- 15 "Financial disclosure," you wrote, "The author
- 16 acknowledges no financial interest"; right?
- 17 That's what you wrote?
- 18 A. That's right.
- 19 Q. Just to go back to your expert
- 20 report for a moment, you said you wrote that.
- 21 Did you provide a draft to anyone prior to
- 22 finalizing it?
- 23 A. I believe I did.
- Q. Who did you provide the draft to?
- 25 A. I think Mr. Overholtz.

- 58 Howard Pomeranz
 - 2 Q. Is that the only change you made?
 - 3 A. Yes
 - 4 Q. You mentioned earlier that you
 - 5 received a CD of documents that you understood to 6 be internal Pfizer documents; correct?

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- A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Prior to receiving that CD, were you 9 asked to sign any confidentiality agreements?
- 10 A. I don't think so. I know I got
- 11 that -- I think there's a folder that I gave you
- 12 that had something to do with the MDL. And I
- 13 think there was something I signed in terms of
- 14 like being on retainer as a consultant or
- 15 something. But other than that, I don't think I 16 signed anything else.
- 17 Q. I'll show you a notebook that was 18 provided in the box of materials. We don't 19 necessarily need to mark it just yet.
- 20 Let me ask you, is this what you're 21 referring to?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And this is a February 16, 2006,
- 24 letter from Michele Parfitt to you, together with
- 25 a binder of materials; correct?

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Q. When did you provide a draft to 3 Mr. Overholtz?
- 4 A. Probably a few weeks before the date 5 on this. So it would have been in either late
- 6 February or early March.
 Q. Did Mr. Overholtz provide you any
 8 comments on the draft you provided him?
- 9 A. Not really. Otherwise, you know, he 10 said it was an excellent report. And I don't
- 11 think he -- he didn't make any recommendations
- 12 that resulted in any change in anything that I
- 13 wrote in it.
- 14 Q. Did he ask you any questions about
- 15 anything you had written in the report?
- 16 A. Nothing that's in the report 17 specifically; but in general, we discussed some
- 18 of the issues related to ischemic optic
- 19 neuropathy and ED drug use.
- Q. Do you remember what changes you 21 made between the draft that you had provided to
- 22 Mr. Overholtz and the final draft dated March 20, 23 2007?
- 24 A. Yes, I put the date on it and signed 25 it.

- 1 Howard Pomeranz
- 2 A. Yes.

- 3 Q. And the binder of materials includes
- 4 Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence, Second
- 5 Edition; U.S. District Court Memorandum and
- 6 Pretrial Order No. 1332 from the diet drug
- 7 Fen-Phen litigation; the U.S. District Court
- 8 Memorandum and Pretrial Order No. 1685 also from
- 9 the Fen-Phen litigation; U.S. District Court In
- 10 Re: diet drug Fen-Phen Memorandum and Pretrial
- 11 Order No. 1203; five, some Daubert orders, the
- 12 first one of which is from the PPA litigation,
- 13 that's the only one I see; and Number 6,
- 14 Rule 26(b) regarding expert testimony.
- 15 Is that all the materials that you
- 16 were just referring to that you received?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And this retainer agreement that
- 19 Miss Parfitt sent you that's attached to this
- 20 binder, is that the retainer agreement that
- 21 you're referring to?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Were you asked to sign anything else
- 24 prior to receiving a CD of materials of Pfizer 25 documents?

1

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 A. Not that I recall.
- 3 Q. Were you aware there's a protective 4 order in this litigation?
- 5 A. I don't know one way or the other.
- Q. Were you ever told that there's a
 7 protective order in this litigation concerning
 8 confidential documents that have been produced in
 9 this litigation?
- 10 A. Other than seeing what's written on 11 the document, that there's a sticker on them or a 12 stamp or something on them, but no conversation 13 about it otherwise.
- 14 Q. Did anyone ever explain to you the 15 limitations on the ability to use or review those 16 documents that have been provided to you?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Have you shared those documents with 19 anyone else?
- 20 A. No.

1

2

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- 21 (Pomeranz 14, February 2, 2006,
- 22 letter from Michele Parfitt and the expert
- 23 retainer agreement, marked for
- 24 identification.)25

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Howard Pomeranz

- 2 A. I received them, but I haven't had a 3 chance to really review them.
- 4 Q. When did you receive them?
- 5 A. Approximately a week ago.
- 6 Q. And has anyone indicated to you that 7 any portions of those transcripts are 8 confidential?
- 9 A. I assume that they're confidential. 10 I'm not about to share it with anybody else, 11 but -- as with any other document that's part of 12 this case, I don't have any plans to share it 13 with anybody else.
- 14 Q. Has anyone told you, has any of the 15 plaintiffs' lawyers told you that those documents 16 are subject to a protective order in this 17 litigation?
- 18 A. I don't recall if they did or 19 didn't.
- Q. Did anyone provide you with any 21 information regarding which specific portions of 22 those transcripts are confidential pursuant to a 23 protective order that's in place in this 24 litigation?
- 25 A. No.

Howard Pomeranz

MS. LESKIN: We're going to mark as

- Exhibit 14, and we'll get copies made
- 4 later, of the February 2, 2006, letter from
- Michele Parfitt and the expert retainerthat you signed and she signed.
- 7 Q. And again, that is the retainer 8 agreement that you were referring to earlier; 9 correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- MS. LESKIN: Counsel, I want to put on the record our objection to the apparent violation of the court's protective order.
- 14 MR. BECNEL: File your motion.
- 15 Q. Other than the CD of documents that 16 you were provided of Pfizer internal documents, 17 were there any other documents or articles that 18 you were provided from any of the plaintiff 19 lawyers you've dealt with, and medical records, 20 obviously?
- 21 A. Just Mr. Thompson's records, which I 22 was given recently. And I believe that's all.
- Q. Did you review any deposition 24 transcripts from any of Pfizer's witnesses in 25 this litigation?

- 1 Howard Pomeranz
 - 2 Q. Have you reviewed any portion of the 3 new drug application for Viagra filed by Pfizer 4 in this litigation filed by Pfizer?
 - 5 A. Can you repeat that.
 - 6 Q. Let me repeat that. I messed myself 7 up.
 - 8 Have you reviewed any portion of the 9 new drug application for Viagra that Pfizer filed 10 with the FDA?
 - 11 A. "New" meaning like ten years ago 12 when the drug was first being developed or 13 something recent?
 - 14 Q. Do you have an understanding of what 15 a new drug application is?
 - 16 A. You mean when the drug was first 17 being developed to put on the market ten years 18 ago?
 - 19 Q. When the -- let's back up.
 - When the FDA -- when Pfizer
 - 21 submitted its information to the FDA for approval 22 of Viagra.
 - 23 A. Back in 19- --
 - 24 Q. In 1997.
- 25 A. in the '90s, yes.

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17 (Pages 62 to 65)

1 Howard Pomeranz

- Q. You understand that there's an application that Pfizer files with the FDA, including its clinical trial data, animals data, and other information to support the approval -- 6 to support the approval of the drug? You're 7 familiar with that process?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Have you reviewed any other 10 information that Pfizer provided to the FDA as 11 part of that approval process?
- 12 A. Yes. I recall when I first started
 13 writing up the case, some of the case series and
 14 thinking about, you know, how all this works, I
 15 think I went to the computer, to the website, to
 16 try to find what I could about some studies that
 17 Pfizer had done initially, whatever was available
 18 in the public record that I could access, and I
 19 think I have copies of those things in the -20 articles and pages in some of the folders I
 21 provided to you, just to look and see if there
 22 was any reporting of visual adverse events in any
 23 of that data that was accessible to me.
- 24 Q. But did you look at any part of the 25 application that Pfizer submitted to the FDA as

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 application has ever been made available on the 3 Internet, then you had not looked at any part of 4 the application?

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- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. And plaintiffs did not provide you 7 any portion of the new drug application as part 8 of this litigation?
- 9 A. As far as I recall, no.
- 10 Q. Have you looked at any of the study 11 reports of any of the studies conducted by Pfizer 12 on Viagra?
- 13 A. Well, if any of those are available 14 by public access, then I may have looked at 15 those.
- 16 Q. Sitting here today, do you17 specifically recall looking at any study reports?
- 18 A. I know I did. I have copies of some 19 of what I looked at in the records I provided to 20 you. I don't remember exactly what studies they 21 were at this point.
- 22 Q. Have you looked at any 23 correspondence between Pfizer and the FDA 24 concerning ischemic optic neuropathy?
- 25 A. Only in what was provided on that

Howard Pomeranz

2 part of the approval process?

- 3 A. Well, I don't know if what I looked 4 at was part of the application or part of other 5 clinical trials that were going on. I don't know 6 how much of what was actually part of the 7 application -- if that's confidential material, 8 then obviously I didn't have access to it.
- 9 If there was some part of what was 10 part of that that was accessible via publicly 11 accessible information, I might have looked at 12 some of that as part of my initial research on 13 this.
- 14 Q. So what you looked at was 15 information you saw on the Internet and you're 16 not sure what the source of that information was; 17 is that correct?
- 18 A. Well, I know it was Pfizer
 19 documents, but I guess it's whatever was
 20 available, you know, to the public as opposed to
 21 any kind of privileged information. So I don't
 22 know if it was part of a drug application, if it
 23 was clinical trials they were doing. Whatever
 24 was accessible publicly.
 - Q. So if no information from the actual

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 CD-ROM of documents from -- that Pfizer provided 3 as part of the deposition.
- 4 Q. Did you ask plaintiffs' counsel for 5 those documents or did they just send them to 6 you?
- 7 A. No, they sent them to me.
- 8 Q. Have you given them any opinions 9 relating to your review of those documents?
- 10 A. No.

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- 11 Q. Did you meet with any of plaintiffs' 12 counsel prior to today's deposition?
- 13 A. We met for breakfast this morning 14 for half an hour.
- 15 Q. Did you discuss the deposition at 16 all?
- 17 A. A little bit, yes.
- 18 Q. Did you discuss Dr. Hayreh's 19 deposition?
- 20 A. Briefly.
- 21 Q. What were you told about
- 22 Dr. Hayreh's deposition?
- 23 A. Oh, I guess some of the mechanics of 24 how it went and it went to a second day and
- 25 things about how there were certain things he

18 (Pages 66 to 69)

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70	70
1 Howard Pomeranz	72 Howard Pomeranz
2 wanted to say that he may or may not have been	
3 able to actually say during the deposition,	3 Q. Have those been provided to you?
4 things of that sort.	4 A. About a week ago now.
5 Q. And did you receive any information	5 Q. I'm aware that you participated in a
6 regarding Dr. Lubin's deposition?	6 meeting with Pfizer in 2001 regarding your report
7 A. No. I think I've just received	7 on ischemic optic neuropathy; correct?
8 their expert reports, but I think the only actual	8 A. That sounds right.
9 deposition that I've read or that I've received a	9 Q. Prior to that meeting, had you ever
10 transcript for is Dr. Hayreh's.	10 spoken with anyone from Pfizer regarding Viagra?
11 Q. Did you read that transcript?	11 A. No.
12 A. Most of it. Not every page, but got	12 Q. Are you a member of ARVO?
13 the gist of it.	13 A. Yes.
14 Q. Have you ever met Dr. Hayreh?	14 Q. And do you attend their annual
15 A. No. I know who he is. I've heard	15 meeting in Fort Lauderdale?
16 him lecture. But I haven't actually spoken to	16 A. Not every year, but as often as I
17 him directly.	17 can.
18 Q. Do you know Dr. Gerald McGuinn?	18 Q. Did you attend that meeting in 1998?
19 A. I know who he is. I haven't I	19 A. I really don't recall specifically.
20 don't know him personally.	20 I might have.
21 Q. You've never spoken to him?	21 Q. Did you attend Pfizer's presentation
22 A. No.	22 in 1998 in Fort Lauderdale regarding Viagra?
23 Q. Do you know Dr. Aruna?	23 A. Not that I recall.
24 A. No.	24 Q. Were you aware that Pfizer met with
25 Q. Have you ever do you know who he	25 neuro-ophthalmologists at the ARVO meeting in
71	
1 Howard Pomeranz	73 1 Howard Pomeranz
2 is?	2 1998 to discuss the data on Viagra, the ocular
3 A. Well, just by the CV or credentials	3 data on Viagra?
4 attached to the expert opinion, but otherwise,	4 A. In 1998, no. I'm not aware of that.
5 no.	5 Q. When you attended the meeting in
6 Q. So prior to this litigation, you	6 2001 to give your presentation, who contacted you
7 didn't know who Dr. Aruna was?	7 to attend that meeting?
8 A. Correct.	8 A. I mean, at this point, I don't
9 Q. Prior to the litigation, did you	9 remember exactly. I know it was someone from
10 know who Dr. McGuinn was?	10 Pfizer. I don't remember exactly who called me
11 A. Yes, through the paper that he had	11 to ask if I wished to participate.
12 written. But other than that, I don't know him	12 Q. And what were you told about the
13 personally.	13 meeting at the time you were invited?
14 Q. Do you know Dr. Alon Harris?	14 A. Well, I know it was called something
15 A. I know who he is. I never met him	15 like Viagra Ophthalmology Advisory Committee or
16 personally.	16 Board, and people were invited to talk about
17 Q. Do you know Dr. John Gamel?	17 things related to vision with the use of the
17 Q. Do you know Dr. John Gamel? 18 A. No.	17 things related to vision with the use of the 18 drug.
 17 Q. Do you know Dr. John Gamel? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Do you know Dr. Steven Kimmel? 	17 things related to vision with the use of the18 drug.19 Q. Did you receive any money for
 17 Q. Do you know Dr. John Gamel? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Do you know Dr. Steven Kimmel? 20 A. No. 	17 things related to vision with the use of the 18 drug. 19 Q. Did you receive any money for 20 attending that meeting?
 17 Q. Do you know Dr. John Gamel? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Do you know Dr. Steven Kimmel? 	17 things related to vision with the use of the18 drug.Q. Did you receive any money for

24 involved in attending as well.

23 thing. And there may have been an honorarium

Q. Do you remember how much you

25

25 litigation?

Have you reviewed the expert reports

24 submitted by any of Pfizer's experts in this

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1 Howard Pomeranz

2 received?

- 3 A. Off the top of my head, no. But it 4 was probably something modest. Maybe a thousand 5 dollars or something in that order. I don't
- 6 remember exactly.
- 7 Q. Now, when you were invited, what 8 were you told about the purpose of the meeting?
- 9 A. Really at this point in time, I 10 don't recall. I just remember being invited
- 11 because it was an opportunity to discuss my work
- 12 and that other people would be discussing other
- 13 things that are vision-related or otherwise in
- 14 association with the drug.
- 15 Q. How many people were in attendance 16 at that meeting?
- 17 A. My recollection, probably in the 18 order of maybe 20, something like that.
- 19 Q. Did you know any of the other people 20 that attended the meeting?
- 21 A. I don't think I knew anyone
- 22 personally. I think the only people I knew sort
- 23 of by reputation as ophthalmologists was Dr. -
- 24 is it Marmer or Marmon from California? I'm not
- 25 sure I recall anyone else specifically who I

Howard Pomeranz
 DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTED:

A. Okay. It was a review of basically 4 the five cases that were published in the first 5 case series.

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- 6 Q. Was there any discussion following 7 your presentation?
- 8 A. There probably was, but I don't 9 recall the substance of it.
- 10 Q. You don't recall anything of the 11 substance?
- 12 A. No, I don't remember if there was 13 any -- really any substantial discussion about
- 14 them. I think people said things like, you know,
- 15 Nice presentation, whatever, were polite and all.
- 16 But I'm not sure there was any pro/con, big 17 discussion afterwards.
- 18 I'm not sure that the way in which 19 all those -- all of the presentations were given 20 were in that kind of format to allow for
- 21 extensive discussion afterwards.
- As I recall, most people gave their
- 23 presentations, and I'm not sure if there was much 24 discussion after each one of them. I think
- 25 individually there may have been some people who

Howard Pomeranz

2 really knew anything about before that.

- Q. Was Al Laties at that meeting?
- A. Actually, he may have been, but I
- 5 don't think -- I never knew Dr. Laties before 6 that. I may have met him for the first time
- 7 there. I think -- I don't even know if I really
- 8 talked with him since then. I think -- I didn't
- 9 certainly didn't know him at all before going to 10 that meeting.
- 11 Q. Did you stand up and give a 12 presentation or did you just talk briefly about 13 your case series?
- 14 A. I believe it was either a slide or a 15 PowerPoint presentation.
- 16 Q. Is that a PowerPoint presentation 17 that you prepared?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Would you still have a copy of that 20 PowerPoint presentation?
- 21 A. I don't know. Maybe. I'm not sure. 22 It's from, what, seven years ago. I might. I'm 23 not sure.
- MS. LESKIN: If you have a copy, we'd ask for a copy of the presentation.

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 came up to maybe discuss my presentation with me
- 3 individually. But I don't recall. I may be
- 4 wrong that there was any public forum of
- 5 discussion about the presentation after I gave 6 it.
- 7 Q. Who do you recall coming up to you 8 to discuss your presentation?
- 9 A. If it was anybody, it would have 10 been either Dr. Marmer or Dr. Laties. I really 11 don't recall anyone else specifically who I
- 12 discussed anyone with there.
- 13 Q. And what do you recall the 14 discussion with either Dr. Marmer or Dr. Laties?
- 15 A. I really don't. It's too long ago.
- 16 I think -- I don't recall really the exact
- 17 substance of the conversation.
- 18 Q. Following your presentation, did you 19 have any other conversations with anyone from 20 Pfizer regarding Viagra?
- 21 A. No conversations. I remember at one 22 point getting a letter asking me to I think fill 23 out a formal report about some of the cases or 24 asking if the cases that were in the case reports 25 were cases that had been formally reported, or

20 (Pages 74 to 77)

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1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
2 something to that extent; but other than that,	2 of Tape 1.
3 nothing else.	3 (Recess from the record.)
4 Q. Did you have any e-mail	4 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the
5 correspondence with anyone from Pfizer following	5 record. The time is 10:14. This is the
6 that meeting?	6 beginning of Tape 2.
7 A. Not that I recall.	7 BY MS. LESKIN:
8 Q. Did you have any further	8 Q. We're going to switch gears a little
9 conversations with Dr. Marmer regarding Viagra	9 bit and talk about the main reason we're here,
10 following that meeting?	10 which is nonarteritic ischemic optic neuropathy,
11 A. Not that I recall.	11 and I refer to that as NAION.
12 Q. Did you have any conversations with	12 Is that a term you're comfortable
13 Dr. Laties regarding Viagra following that	13 with?
14 meeting?	14 A. Sure.
15 A. I might have. I know maybe a	15 Q. Shortened as N-A-I-O-N?
16 year or two years later, I remember I gave a	16 A. Yes.
17 presentation at the American Academy of	17 Q. If I say "NAION," you'll understand
18 Ophthalmology in Dallas to present the cases, I	18 what I'm referring to?
19 think, or something similar to probably what I	19 A. Correct.
20 presented at Pfizer. It's in my CV.	20 Q. You don't have any visceral reaction
21 I'm sure exactly when that was, I	21 objecting to that term?
22 don't recall the exact year, but I'm sure there	22 A. No. I know Dr. Hayreh
23 were people that came up to my poster that I had	23 Q. The term itself refers to
24 there and talked about the findings. And I don't	24 nonarteritic, right, which is to distinguish it
25 know if Dr. Marmer or Dr. Laties may have been	25 between arteritic; right?
and the second s	25 octween arteride, right?
79	01
1 Howard Pomeranz	81 1 Howard Pomeranz
1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
Howard Pomeranz among those people that might have come up and	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic
Howard Pomeranz among those people that might have come up and	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time.	 Howard Pomeranz A. Correct. Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? A. Correct.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time.	 Howard Pomeranz A. Correct. Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? A. Correct. Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from	 Howard Pomeranz A. Correct. Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? A. Correct.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Anterior is the anterior part of the
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1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 10 Bayer?	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Anterior is the anterior part of the 10 optic nerve; right? 11 A. Correct.
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1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 10 Bayer? 11 A. No. 12 Q. Anyone from Schering? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Anyone from GlaxoSmithKline? 15 A. No.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Anterior is the anterior part of the 10 optic nerve; right? 11 A. Correct. 12 Q. And that's the front of it? 13 A. Correct.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 10 Bayer? 11 A. No. 12 Q. Anyone from Schering? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Anyone from GlaxoSmithKline? 15 A. No.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Anterior is the anterior part of the 10 optic nerve; right? 11 A. Correct. 12 Q. And that's the front of it? 13 A. Correct. 14 Q. When you look in the eye, you call 15 that the optic disc? 16 A. Yes.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 10 Bayer? 11 A. No. 12 Q. Anyone from Schering? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Anyone from GlaxoSmithKline? 15 A. No. 16 Q. Prior to finalizing your expert	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Anterior is the anterior part of the 10 optic nerve; right? 11 A. Correct. 12 Q. And that's the front of it? 13 A. Correct. 14 Q. When you look in the eye, you call 15 that the optic disc? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. That's the front part you see;
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1 Howard Pomeranz 2 among those people that might have come up and 3 talked to me about it. But I know there were 4 several people that I talked to about the cases 5 at that time. 6 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 7 Lilly or ICOS? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Have you spoken with anyone from 10 Bayer? 11 A. No. 12 Q. Anyone from Schering? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Anyone from GlaxoSmithKline? 15 A. No. 16 Q. Prior to finalizing your expert 17 report in this litigation, did you review it with 18 any of your scientific colleagues? 19 A. No. 20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: One minute, 21 Counsel.	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 A. Correct. 3 Q. And arteritic is a systemic 4 condition; right? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. By "optic neuropathy," we mean 7 damage to the optic nerve; right? 8 A. Correct. 9 Q. Anterior is the anterior part of the 10 optic nerve; right? 11 A. Correct. 12 Q. And that's the front of it? 13 A. Correct. 14 Q. When you look in the eye, you call 15 that the optic disc? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. That's the front part you see; 18 right? 19 A. Right. 20 Q. The term itself includes "ischemic," 21 and that's because NAION is presumed to be due to
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2 ischemia?

1

- 3 A. I don't think enough is known about 4 that to know for sure. It's possible in certain 5 circumstances.
- 6 Q. Is it due to a hemorrhagic event?
- 7 A. Generally, no.
- 8 Q. Is it due to an embolic event?
- 9 A. No, I think it's been well

10 established that that's not the case.

- 11 Q. As a clinician, how do you diagnose 12 a patient with NAION?
- 13 A. Well, a lot of it is based on both 14 the history of the details surrounding the loss 15 of vision that the patient expresses to his 16 physician and, secondarily, the objective 17 findings on exam.
- 18 Typically, the history is usually an 19 abrupt, but sometimes slowly decremental loss of 20 vision over time, but most commonly a sudden loss 21 of vision. Usually not associated with pain, 22 though sometimes it can be. Sometimes preceded 23 by other types of visual disturbances that the 24 patient may or may not recall prior to the sudden 25 loss of vision.

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2 Q. And you said that usually it's 3 painless, but sometimes there can be some pain 4 associated --

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85

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- right?

Again, that's a range in between 8 there as well, between severe pain and mild pain 9 and no pain?

10 A. Generally it's mild pain, if there 11 is any at all.

- 12 Q. You said sometimes it's preceded by 13 other visual disturbances and sometimes it's not?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. What type of visual disturbances are 16 you referring to there?
- 17 A. Well, it really can vary with 18 patients. Some patients may describe seeing 19 flashes of light, changes in color, transient 20 darkness in their vision that might last for a 21 very brief period of time and go away, things of 22 that sort.
- 23 Q. Have you seen cases, for example, 24 like crescent-shaped lights in the visual field 25 or something like that?

1 Howard Pomeranz

And then the typical findings on 3 exam would depend on the degree to which the 4 optic nerve is damaged and could include a change 5 in eye chart vision or visual acuity, the 6 presence of pupil abnormality called an efferent 7 pupillary defect.

- 8 Other findings on exam might include 9 a decrease in color vision, changes in peripheral 10 vision, or what we call visual field. Then a 11 change in the appearance of the optic nerve as 12 you look in the back of the eye, if it's indeed 13 of the anterior type rather than the posterior 14 type.
- 15 Q. Let's go through those one at a 16 time.
- 17 You said sometimes -- usually it's 18 sudden, but it can be progressive; right?
- 19 A. In some patients, it may vary. Not 20 every patient has a textbook presentation.
- 21 Q. So there's variation from one 22 patient to -- and so not really a typical or 23 exclusive presentation in that sense; right?
- 24 A. Correct. That's true of any kind of 25 optic neuropathy in general.

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2 A. That might be possible. Obviously 3 the — one has to think about migraine and things 4 like that that it can present that way too. 5 That's all part of the history taking and looking 6 at objective findings on exam.

- 7 Q. But there's a wide variety in how it 8 presents in that regard?
- 9 A. There can be.
- 10 Q. You said that, on exam, there's
- 11 varying degrees of damage that could be evident?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And some people have worse visual 14 acuity than others?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. And some people have worse visual 17 fields than others?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Is there any consistency as to the 20 location of the visual field defect?
- 21 A. Well, the most common type is a type 22 that we call an altitudinal defect because it 23 respects the -- a line going across the center of 24 the vision and often will either be below or 25 above that. That's the most common type of

22 (Pages 82 to 85)

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 visual field deficit a patient will have, but 3 they can have other types as well.
- When you say it could be above the 5 line or below the line, either one is a possible 6 with NAION; right?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. As well as nasal or inferior or --
- 9 What's it called?
- 10 A. Or temporal.
- -- or temporal. Okay. 11 Q.
- 12 Sometimes it can be a change in 13 color vision, I think you mentioned; right?
- 14 Yes. A.
- 15 Q. But not always?
- 16 Correct. A.
- 17 Q. The optic -- you said there's a
- 18 change to the optic nerve, the disc that you're 19 looking at?
- 20 In the anterior type. A.
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 So in anterior ischemic optic O.
- 24 neuropathy, what does the optic disc look like?
- 25 Well, it would be swollen. And it

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2 present with disc swelling before they actually 3 lose vision. So they may not necessarily have a 88

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- 4 visual field defect at that time.
- But I think the presence of the
- 6 visual field defect is generally a sense that
- 7 whatever damage has occurred is irreversible at
- 8 that point, that there's some permanence to the
- 9 damage that's occurred at that point in time.
- O. You said that there are patients who 11 present with a swollen disc. What kind of
- 12 symptoms would those patients have if they
- 13 don't -- let me rephrase the question because it 14 was kind of incomplete.
- You said there are some patients who 16 present with a swollen disc, but no visual 17 symptoms. What would bring that patient to see 18 you in that case?
- 19 Well, in a situation like that, it
- 20 may be just picked up on a routine exam. And I'm
- 21 not sure a diagnosis of ischemic optic neuropathy
- 22 would be made at that point. Sometimes the nerve
- 23 is just swollen, and we say the disc is swollen
- 24 without necessarily making the diagnosis.
- 25 Typically the patients that come in are the ones

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- 2 may be swollen all the way around for 360 degrees
- 3 around the optic disc. Sometimes it's just
- 4 swollen in part, meaning part of the nerve is
- 5 affected and another part of it seems not to be.
- There are usually hemorrhages
- 7 associated with that. Sometimes there can be 8 narrowing of the blood vessels on the surface or
- 9 near the surface of the disc, particularly the
- 10 arteries. And often, but not always, the patient
- 11 may have the so-called disc at risk, the small
- 12 optic nerve or small cup-to-disc ratio, though it 13 isn't absolutely required.
- And the disc at risk is referring to 15 the size of the disc head compared to the size of 16 the opening or the vessels? Or what is that 17 referring to?
- Well, it can refer to the diameter 19 of the disc as a whole, as well as to the size of 20 the indentation on the surface of the nerve.
- O. The visual defect that you see in 22 NAION, the visual field defects, is that a direct 23 result of the swollen disc or is it related to 24 some other -- something else that's going on?
- 25 Well, there are some patients who

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- 2 who have noticed some loss or change in vision.
 - Q. Is there a way to tell on
- 4 examination of those patients whether or not they
- 5 had had a swollen disc before they noticed a 6 visual field defect?
- 7 You mean if they don't have disc
- 8 swelling anymore when I see them? Or if you see them and they have
- 10 this swelling, can you tell how long the disc
- 11 swelling has been occurring relative to how long
- 12 they had a visual field defect?
- Disc swelling typically lasts for
- 14 maybe four to six weeks, sometimes eight weeks,
- 15 that's the general time period, before it tends
- 16 to resolve, unless there's something unusual
- 17 about the case. So that's in a patient who's
- 18 symptomatic.
- And a patient who's asymptomatic, 20 who walks in and has a swollen disc, it may be
- 21 difficult to tell how long it's been that way 22 before the patient happened to come in.
- Q. I'm not sure that quite answered 23
- 24 what I was saying.
- When a patient comes in and presents 25

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2 with a swollen disc and visual field defect, is 3 it possible for you to tell how long they've had

4 the swollen disc at that point in time?

- Really only in conjunction with 6 their history of how long they've said they've 7 noticed the vision loss. Most of the time, I 8 think patients will not have a swollen disc prior 9 to that appointment.
- 10 I've seen patients who had a normal 11 exam and then showed up a few days later, a week 12 later with onset of vision loss and they didn't 13 have the swollen optic nerve before. So I think 14 in most cases, it generally will precede very 15 quickly, within days usually, the patient's onset 16 into the office to be checked, but that will be
- 18 Q. Are you aware of any studies that 19 look at the number of patients who have swelling 20 of the optic disc prior to any visual field 21 defect?
- 22 A. I know Dr. Hayreh has published some 23 study like that. I don't remember the specifics 24 of it, but I think he has mentioned in his study 25 that that can certainly happen.

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17 the usual situation.

2 Q. That wouldn't be unusual?

3 Well, I guess I would say it could

4 happen. I don't think it happens very 5 frequently, but it could happen.

- Q. Do you have a way to measure how 7 frequently it happens?
- A. No. I think you'd have to do 9 probably an epidemiological study of some sort.
- Q. Are you aware of anyone who's 11 attempted that sort of epidemiological study to 12 follow a group of patients and determine how many 13 of them get ischemic optic neuropathy, how many 14 of them present with a disc -- optic disc edema, 15 followed by how many of them have visual field 16 defect and how long in between those two events?
- 17 Probably Dr. Hayreh. As far as I'm 18 aware, I think he's done the most work in this 19 area.
- You'll agree with me that NAION is a Q. 21 frequent cause of untreatable, sudden, 22 irreversible vision loss in individuals older

23 than 40; right?

A. Well, depends what you mean by 25 "frequent." I mean, it's not something you see Howard Pomeranz

2 every day, but there have been some studies that 3 suggest how common it is.

Q. If you can pull out Exhibit 10, 5 which is your editorial in the British Journal of 6 Ophthalmology.

Looking at the second paragraph of 8 your editorial, you wrote, "NAION is a frequent 9 cause of untreatable, sudden, irreversible vision 10 loss in individuals older than 40 years"; right?

11 That's what you wrote?

12 A. That's what I wrote.

- 13 O. In fact, it's one of the most common 14 optic nerve disorders in the elderly; right?
- 15 A.
- 16 Q. In your expert report that we marked 17 earlier, you make reference to the prevalence of 18 being one in 50,000.
- 19 Do you recall that statement in your 20 report?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. Now, that really is referring to the 23 incidents of NAION; correct?
- That was extracted from the two, I 25 think, papers that had been published on the

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2 topic that talk about how common it is in the 3 population.

One in 50,000 refers to Johnson and О. 5 Arnold's paper; right?

6 A. Yes.

And you're familiar with Hattenour's 8 paper, who finds the incident to be 10.3 per 9 100,000?

10 A. Yes.

11

Q. And that's one in 10,000; right?

12 I think it's an overestimate, but

13 that's what the calculation was.

- 14 And you haven't done any studies to 15 determine the incident rate of NAION in the 16 population; correct?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Now, there's four layers to the 19 optic nerve head; right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And there's the superficial layer;
- 22 right? That's the one that you see when you look
- 23 in the disc; right --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- when you look in the eye?

^{24 (}Pages 90 to 93)

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- 2 Below that's the prelaminar; right?
- 3 A. Yes
- 4 Q. And below that's the laminar
- 5 cribrosa; correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And last is the retrolaminar layer; 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. In which of those layers does NAION 11 occur?
- 12 A. I think it's not at the superficial
- 13 level. I think it's at a deeper level than that.
- 14 Q. And what do you rely on for that?
- 15 A. Studies that have been done by other 16 individuals who have done the science.
- 17 Q. Which studies?
- 18 A. Hayreh in particular. He's done the 19 most work in this area.
- 20 Q. You've not done any studies in this 21 area; right?
- A. Other than the animal model that I 23 described to you before.
- 24 Q. And in the Bernstein rat model, were 25 you able to determine which layer of the optic

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- 2 in that patient?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. And NAION's been recognized as a 5 medical condition for several decades; is that 6 fair?
- 7 A. I don't know exactly how long. I 8 think Hayreh said he actually coined the phrase. 9 I don't remember exactly when that was.
- 10 Q. It was before you were practicing?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And it was recognized as a medical 13 condition long before Viagra came on the market; 14 right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Which vessels in your opinion are 17 affected in NAION?
- 18 A. The end arteries from the posterior 19 ciliaries that profuse the disc.
- Q. What methods are there to measure 21 blood flow in those arteries?
- 22 A. I don't think there are.
- 23 Q. It's your opinion that there are no 24 methods -- there's no way to measure blood flow 25 in the posterior ciliary arteries or just the end

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- 2 nerve had -- was affected by ischemic optic 3 neuropathy?
- 4 A. Not that I recall. That wasn't the 5 object of the study.
- 6 Q. Just going back to some of the 7 symptoms and factors of NAION, is there any 8 way -- any relationship between what the disc 9 looks like on exam and the extent of visual field 10 loss?
- 11 A. Often they will correlate, but not 12 always.
- 13 Q. How will they correlate?
- 14 A. Well, for example, if the optic
- 15 nerve is partially swollen, let's say along the
- 16 superior aspect of the nerve, then it's very
- 17 common to see a visual field defect that's down
- 18 below the center. But it doesn't necessarily
- 19 have to be the case. Sometimes there isn't an
- 20 exact correlation between how much the nerve is
- 21 swollen and how much of a visual field loss there 22 is.
- 23 Q. When you look into the eye and you 24 examine the optic disc, can you determine just by 25 looking at the disc what the cause of NAION was

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2 arteries?

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- 3 A. My understanding is that in the end 4 arteries, it's difficult, if not impossible, to 5 do that because of either the lack of access or 6 lack of reliability of the methods for measuring 7 at that level deep within the optic nerve.
- 8 Q. Are there techniques that allow you 9 to measure blood flow in the PCAs?
- 10 A. There probably are, but I'm not an 11 expert of any sort in that area.
- 12 Q. What methods are you aware of that 13 measure the blood flow in the PCAs?
- 14 A. I don't know the answer to that.
- 15 Q. You say in your expert report on 16 page 2 in the introduction, top paragraph -- I'll 17 let you pull it out.
- 18 (Pause from the record.)
- 19 Q. In the middle you say this --
- 20 "Conflicting data exists in the medical
- 21 literature regarding the effect of sildenafil on 22 blood flow in the eye. The studies of effects of
- 23 ED drugs on ocular circulation were carried out
- 24 with various methodologies, some of which have
- 25 uncertain reliability and reproducibility and

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2 yield different results in the hands of different	2 an article by Dr. Kurtulan from the
3 investigators."	3 International Journal of Impotence Research
4 Let's go back.	4 in 2004.
5 Which studies are you referring to	5 Q. Is this one of the articles you
6 there?	6 referred to in paragraph 1 of your expert report?
7 A. There are a whole pile of them in	7 A. It may be. If you want me to go
8 the information that I presented you.	8 through my folder, I'll pull them all out for
9 Q. Sitting here today, can you identify	9 you.
10 which ones you were talking about in this	10 Q. Do you - sitting here today, do you
11 paragraph?	11 have any recollection of reviewing this article?
12 A. No, I'd have to pull them out of the	12 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
13 folder and look at all of them.	13 A. I might have I may have.
14 Q. We can go through them.	14 Q. The reason I ask is because there
15 (Pomeranz 15, Article entitled, "The	15 was no cites in paragraph 1 and none of these
16 Effects of Sildenafil on Ocular Blood	16 articles are listed in the references in the back
17 Flow," with Murat Koksal as the lead	17 of your report. So I'm just trying to figure out
author, marked for identification.)	18 which ones you are relying on for that statement.
MS. LESKIN: We've marked as	19 And if you want during a break I'm
20 Exhibit 15 an article entitled, "The	And if you want, during a break, I'm 20 happy to give you the box and you can take a look
21 Effects of Sildenafil on Ocular Blood	21 in there.
22 Flow," with Murat Koksal as the lead	
23 author, from Acta Ophthalmologica	- J
24 Scandinavica, 2005.	23 article, under conclusions, the second sentence
25 Q. Is this one of the articles you were	24 says, "Sildenafil has no effect on central
2. Is and one of the articles you were	25 retinal arterial circulation on the basis of
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1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
2 referring to in that paragraph?	2 central Doppler ultrasonography."
3 A. I don't know if I saw this paper	3 Do you see that sentence?
4 before. I'd have to look in my folder and see if	4 A. Yes.
5 it's one of the ones that I looked at.	5 (Pomeranz 17, Article entitled,
6 Q. Sitting here today, do you have any	6 "Sildenafil Does Not Alter Retrobulbar
7 recollection of reviewing this article?	7 Hemodynamics in Postural Variations," by
8 A. I don't remember specifically.	8 Dr. Taner in Neuro-Ophthalmology, 2005,
9 Q. If you look at the abstract, the	9 marked for identification.)
10 conclusion there says, "Sildenafil causes	10 MS. LESKIN: We've marked as
11 significant increase in blood flow in these	11 Exhibit 17, "Sildenafil Does Not Alter
12 arteries."	12 Retrobulbar Hemodynamics in Postural
Do you see that?	12 Retrobulbar Hemodynamics in Postural 13 Variations," by Dr. Taner in
14 A. Yes.	14 Neuro-Ophthalmology 2005
15 Q. And do you know which arteries he's	1
16 referring to here?	or and articles that you
17 A. He mentions in the result section	16 referred to in paragraph 1 of your expert report?
18 ophthalmic artery and post short posterior	17 A. No, I know I definitely have not 18 seen this one.
19 ciliary artery measurements.	l j
20 Q. If you	19 Q. If you look on page 63 of this
21 (Pomeranz 16, Article by Dr.	20 report
22 Kurtulan from the International Journal of	MR. BECNEL: You're still on 63?
	MS. LESKIN: Page 63.
Impotence Research in 2004, marked foridentification.)	MR. BECNEL: Which side?
	MS. LESKIN: That's why I'm looking
MS. LESKIN: We marked as Exhibit 16	25 to see where it is.

26 (Pages 98 to 101)

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102	100
1 Howard Pomeranz	104 Howard Pomeranz
2 Q. The last sentence the bottom of	2 Q. On page 754, on the right column,
3 the left column, the last full sentence says, "We	3 second paragraph, Dr. Grunwald concludes, "In
4 observed that sildenafil did not change	
5 retrobulbar blood flow in the sitting position.	4 contrast to our previous studies on the effect of
6 Similarly, no changes were detected in the	5 nitrates, our current study does not show any
7 physiologic behavior of retrobulbar circulation	6 significant effect of sildenafil on choroidal or
8 in the supine position after sildenafil uptake."	7 optic nerve head blood flow."
9 Do you see that conclusion?	8 Right?
10 A. I see that.	9 A. That's what it says.
	10 (Pomeranz 20, Article by Dr.
(11 Metelitsina and colleagues, "Effect of
	12 Viagra on the Foveolar Choroidal
Hemodynamics," published in Eye, 2001,	13 Circulation of AMD Patients," published in
14 marked for identification.)	Experimental Eye Research, 2005, marked for
MS. LESKIN: We marked as Exhibit 18	15 identification.)
an article by Dr. Dundar, "Effect of	MS. LESKIN: We marked as Exhibit 20
17 Sildenafil on Ocular Hemodynamics,"	17 an article by Dr. Metelitsina and
published in Eye, 2001.	18 colleagues, "Effect of Viagra on the
19 Q. Is this one of the articles you	19 Foveolar Choroidal Circulation of AMD
20 referred to in paragraph 1 of your report?	20 Patients," published in Experimental Eye
21 A. I believe I've seen this one before.	21 Research, 2005.
22 This looks familiar.	22 Q. Was this one of the studies that you
23 Q. If you look at page 508	23 referred to in paragraph 1 of your report?
MR. BECNEL: Where?	24 A. No, I've never seen this before.
25 MS. LESKIN: I'm focusing on the	25 Q. Take your time. And you can spend
1 Howard Pomorona	105
1 Howard Pomeranz	1 Howard Pomeranz
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph.	Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations 4 here, but I think what it says and I'll read	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left 4 column.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations 4 here, but I think what it says and I'll read 5 it and you can check my interpretation:	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left 4 column. 5 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations 4 here, but I think what it says and I'll read 5 it and you can check my interpretation: 6 "After sildenafil administration,	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left 4 column. 5 (Witness peruses the exhibit.) 6 MR. BECNEL: Which one, Lori? I'm
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations 4 here, but I think what it says and I'll read 5 it and you can check my interpretation: 6 "After sildenafil administration, 7 peak systolic velocity, end diastolic velocity,	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left 4 column. 5 (Witness peruses the exhibit.) 6 MR. BECNEL: Which one, Lori? I'm 7 sorry.
1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations 4 here, but I think what it says and I'll read 5 it and you can check my interpretation: 6 "After sildenafil administration, 7 peak systolic velocity, end diastolic velocity, 8 mean velocity significantly increased in the	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left 4 column. 5 (Witness peruses the exhibit.) 6 MR. BECNEL: Which one, Lori? I'm 7 sorry. 8 MS. LESKIN: Page 163 on the left
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1 Howard Pomeranz 2 right column, top paragraph. 3 Q. And there's a lot of abbreviations 4 here, but I think what it says — and I'll read 5 it and you can check my interpretation: 6 "After sildenafil administration, 7 peak systolic velocity, end diastolic velocity, 8 mean velocity significantly increased in the 9 ophthalmic artery of both eyes." 10 You see that conclusion?	1 Howard Pomeranz 2 as much time as you need looking through it. I'm 3 going to focus you on page 163 on the left 4 column. 5 (Witness peruses the exhibit.) 6 MR. BECNEL: Which one, Lori? I'm 7 sorry. 8 MS. LESKIN: Page 163 on the left 9 column. 10 Q. First full paragraph there on the
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106 108 Howard Pomeranz Howard Pomeranz 2 Exhibit 21, another article by Dr. Grunwald and 2 specifically. 3 colleagues, "Effect of Sildenafil Citrate And were you at the 2000 ARVO Q. 4 (Viagra) on Retinal Blood Pressure Diameter," 4 meeting? 5 published in 2002 in the American Journal of 5 A. Let's see. I would have been in 6 Ophthalmology. 6 Maryland at the time. I don't think so. Not Is this one of the articles that you 7 that I recall specifically. 8 reference in paragraph 1 of your expert report? Q. I'll turn your attention to A. Yes. 9 page 174. Just looking at the results, it says, 10 O. And if you turn to page 810, under 10 "The 12 subjects demonstrated significant mean 11 results, second sentence says, "In comparison 11 increase in pulsatile ocular blood flow." 12 with placebo, no statistically significant change 12 Do you see that? 13 in average vessel diameter was observed for the 13 Yes. A. 14 superior retinal temporal vein, the inferior 14 (Pomeranz 23, Article by Dr. Pache 15 retinal temporal vein, and the retinal temporal 15 entitled, "Sildenafil Induces Retinal 16 artery after sildenafil treatment." 16 Vasodilatation in Healthy Subjects," 17 Do you see that conclusion? 17 published in the British Journal of 18 A. I see it. 18 Ophthalmology, 2002, marked for 19 (Pomeranz 22, Article by Dr. Paris, 19 identification.) 20 "Sildenafil Increases Ocular Perfusion," 20 MS. LESKIN: We've marked as published in International Ophthalmology in 21 21 Exhibit 23 an article by Dr. Pache 22 2001, marked for identification.) 22 entitled, "Sildenafil Induces Retinal 23 MS. LESKIN: We marked as Pomeranz 23 Vasodilatation in Healthy Subjects," Exhibit 22 an article by Dr. Paris, 24 24 published in the British Journal of 25 "Sildenafil Increases Ocular Perfusion." 25 Ophthalmology, 2002. 107 109 1 Howard Pomeranz 1 **Howard Pomeranz** 2 published in International Ophthalmology in 2 Is this one of the studies that you 3 3 refer to in paragraph 1 of your expert report? Q. And there's an asterisk that says, 4 A. I believe so. I think I've seen 5 "This study was published as a letter in the New 5 this before. 6 England Journal of Medicine in 2000 and presented 6 Q. If you look at just even the 7 as a poster at the American Academy of 7 abstract, under conclusion, it says, "Sildenafil 8 Ophthalmology in 2000 and as a free paper at the 8 causes a significant dilation of retinal arteries 9 2000 ARVO meeting, obviously in 2000. 9 and veins in healthy subjects." Was this article in any of its forms 10 Do you see that conclusion? 11 one of the studies that you referred to in the 11 A. Yes. 12 first paragraph of your expert report? 12 MS. LESKIN: This is the last study 13 Yes, I've seen this before in some 13 I'm going to mark right now. 14 form or another. 14 (Pomeranz 24, Article by Dr. Palak, 15 Q. Do you know which version you would 15 "Effects of Sildenafil on Retinal Blood 16 have seen it as? 16 Flow and Flicker-Induced Retinal 17 It might have been this publication. 17 Vasodilation in Healthy Subjects," 18 Again, I think I have a copy of it in my folder. 18 published in Investigative Ophthalmology Were you at the American Academy of 19 and Visual Science, November 2003, marked 20 Ophthalmology meeting in Dallas, Texas, in 2000? 20 for identification.) Yes, I think that's where I actually 21 MS. LESKIN: We marked as Exhibit 24 22 presented my paper of a poster of cases. 22 an article by Dr. Palak, "Effects of And did you receive this poster from 23 Sildenafil on Retinal Blood Flow and 24 Dr. Sponsel? 24 Flicker-Induced Retinal Vasodilation in 25 A. I might have. I don't recall 25 Healthy Subjects," published in

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1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual
- 3 Science, November 2003.
- 4 Q. Is this one of the studies that you 5 referred to in the first paragraph of your 6 report?
- 7 A. I think I've seen this one before. 8 I'm not 100 percent sure.
- 9 Q. Again just referring briefly to the 10 abstract, under conclusions, "The data indicate 11 that sildenafil increases retinal venous
- 12 diameters and retinal blood flow in healthy 13 subjects."
- 14 Do you see that conclusion?
- 15 A. I see it.
- 16 Q. I want to direct your attention back 17 to Dr. Koksal's paper, which was Exhibit 15. If 18 you look at the right-hand-most column on 19 page 358, and the second sentence, Dr. Koksal 20 writes, "However, sildenafil has not been found 21 to cause any decrease in ocular blood flow."
- 22 Do you see that sentence?
- A. I see it.

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Q. Are you aware of any study measuring 25 blood flow to the eyes after Viagra use that

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 Q. Or in your knowledge.
- 3 Are you aware of any study that4 shows that Viagra causes a decrease in blood flow

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- 5 to the eyes?
- 6 A. There may be in some of the papers 7 that I have in my file. I need to look at the 8 material to answer your question.
- 9 Q. And short of that, you can't 10 identify an article off the top of your head; is 11 that right?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Are you aware of any studies that 14 show that Viagra causes a decrease in blood flow 15 to any tissue in the body?
- 16 A. I think the only literature that17 I've looked at has been with respect to the eye,18 so I don't know about other parts of the body.
- 19 Q. So are you aware of any studies 20 showing that Viagra improves blood flow to the 21 heart?
- 22 A. If there is, I am not familiar with 23 that literature.
- Q. Are you familiar with any studiesshowing Viagra causes improved blood flow to the

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- 1 Howard Pomeranz 2 shows a decrease in blood flow?
- 3 A. I have to look through the papers 4 and look at all the conclusions.
- 5 Q. We can certainly allow you to do 6 that during the break, but as you sit here today, 7 are you aware of any study that contradicts what 8 Dr. Koksal says here?
- 9 MR. BECNEL: Let me enter an objection.

Counsel, you've taken his file. He doesn't have it. He said he needs it to be able to check it. And you want him to make a definitive statement. That's not fair to the witness.

MS. LESKIN: I'll repeat my question.

- 18 Q. As you sit here today, and again, 19 we'll allow you to -- you can certainly take a 20 look at your documents during the break, but 21 sitting here right now, can you identify any 22 study that contradicts what Dr. Koksal writes in 23 this article?
- A. You mean out of the papers that you 25 provided me to look at?

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 lungs?
- 3 A. Only tangentially in that I know 4 that a form of sildenafil -- was it Revatio --
- 5 Q. Revatio?
- 6 A. -- or something like that has been 7 approved for pulmonary hypertension, so I know 8 there's been some role for that.
- 9 Q. Have you read any of the studies 10 supporting the indication of sildenafil for the 11 treatment of pulmonary hypertension?
- 12 A. I think I'm aware of it in general, 13 but I'm not familiar with the specific studies.
- 14 Q. Are you aware of any study showing 15 improved blood flow in patients with Raynaud's 16 Syndrome?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. You make reference in your report to 19 case reports of stroke. Is it your testimony -- 20 is it your opinion that Viagra can cause stroke?
- 21 A. I think there are cases in the 22 literature similar to the case reports with 23 ischemic optic neuropathy where that's been 24 reported. So there's been an association between 25 taking the drug and developing a TIA or a stroke

Howard Pomeranz 1

2 and cases that have been reported.

- Let me ask you this way: Do you 4 have an opinion of whether Viagra can cause 5 stroke?
- I know that there are cases that Α. 7 have been described. Whether there's an exact 8 cause and effect directly between the two is not 9 really my area of expertise as far as strokes are 10 concerned.
- 11 Q. So let me just ask my question 12 again, then.
- 13 Do you have an opinion as to whether 14 Viagra can cause stroke?
- MR. BECNEL: Let me enter an 15 16 objection.
- 17 It's repetitious. He said it's not 18 his area of expertise.
- JUDGE BORG: Overruled. 19
- 20 He can answer the question, if he's 21 able to.
- 22 A. I think that Dr. Egan and I wrote a 23 brief letter to the editor about one of the cases 24 about that. And to the extent that we expressed 25 an opinion about it in that paper, I think that's

114 **Howard Pomeranz**

2 Viagra caused this man's stroke?

I think the most we can say here, 4 because not enough is known about it, that it 5 appears to be associated. I don't think we made 6 any statement as to causality.

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- 7 Q. Let's go back to my question when we 8 started off here.
- Do you have an opinion -- it could 10 be yes, it could be no. Do you have an opinion 11 as to whether Viagra can cause a stroke?
- A. I don't have a specific opinion, but 13 I think the case studies here have suggested a 14 possible association that needs to be further 15 explored.
- 16 Q. So is that a no?
- 17 MR. BECNEL: I'll enter an 18 objection.
- 19 His answer is his answer, Counsel.
- 20 A. I mean, I don't have an opinion yes 21 or no. I don't think there's enough data out 22 there to give you a definitive conclusion. I
- 23 think further study is indicated.
- Have you looked at any of the 25 literature looking at the incidence of stroke

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1 **Howard Pomeranz** 2 all I really have to say about it.

(Pomeranz 25, Letter to the Editor signed by Robert A. Egan and Howard Pomeranz, appearing in Neurology in 2002,

6 entitled, "Transient Ischemic Attack and 7

Stroke Associated with Sildenafil (Viagra)

Use," marked for identification.)

9 MS. LESKIN: We've marked as 10 Exhibit 25 a letter to the editor signed by

11 Robert A. Egan and Howard Pomeranz, 12 appearing in Neurology in 2002, entitled,

- 13 "Transient Ischemic Attack and Stroke
- 14 Associated with Sildenafil (Viagra) Use."
- 15 Is this the letter to the editor you Q. 16 just referred to?
- 17 A. Yes.

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- 18 Now, what you say in the second 19 paragraph here is, "This is not to say that we 20 believe sildenafil was not associated with this 21 patient's stroke; however, the etiology may be 22 something other than hypotension."
- 23 Right? That's what you wrote?
- 24 A. That's what I wrote.
- 25 Did you have an opinion whether Q.

Howard Pomeranz 2 among men taking Viagra?

What I've looked at are reports of 4 neurological events, whether they're stroke or 5 something else that have been reported to be an 6 association with taking Viagra. And they are 7 what they are. They're case reports.

- Have you looked at any of the 9 clinical studies that have been done on Viagra 10 that look that the incidence of stroke?
- 11 No. A.
- 12 Were you aware that those studies O. 13 exist?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Did you ever look to see whether Q. 16 those studies exist?
- This editorial -- our letter to the 17 18 editor was primarily written by Dr. Egan with 19 some input from me. And he's a neurologist and I 20 am not. So I don't think I personally have done 21 any studies along that -- along those lines, but 22 Dr. Egan may have.
- 23 My question was simple.
- 24 Did you ever look to see whether any 25 studies regarding -- clinical studies on Viagra

30 (Pages 114 to 117)

	113
	1 Howard Pomeranz
1	2 that looked at the incidence of stroke, did you
	3 ever look to see whether those studies existed?
	4 A. If I ever looked, I don't know.
	5 Have I found any and read any, not that I recall.
	6 (Pomeranz 26, Article by Dr. Randall
	7 Zusman and colleagues, from the American
	8 Journal of Cardiology entitled, "Overall
	9 Cardiovascular Profile of Sildenafil
	10 Citrate," published in 1999, marked for
	11 identification.)
	MS. LESKIN: We've marked as
-	13 Exhibit 26 an article by Dr. Randall Zusman
1	and colleagues, from the American Journal
	of Cardiology entitled, "Overall
	16 Cardiovascular Profile of Sildenafil
	17 Citrate," published in 1999.
1	18 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
I	19 Q. Sir, have you ever seen this article
I	20 before?
İ	21 A. No.
ı	Q. I'll give you a minute to take a
	23 look through it, if you'd like.
l	MR. BECNEL: It will take more than
l	a minute. It will take some time to look
ŀ	
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18	1:	20	
	1 Howard Pomeranz		
	2 41C?		
	3 A. I'm just there now. 4 Q. Okay.		
	4 Q. Okay.		
	5 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)		
	6 Q. Have you read that section?		
	7 A. As much as I can in a short period		
	8 of time.		
	9 Q. I'll ask a question and if you need		
	10 to take a closer look, you just tell me you need	l	
	11 to take a closer look at the article and we'll		
	12 give you the time you need.		
ì	13 A. All right.		
	14 Q. Okay. This section that I've just		
	15 directed you to is reporting on double-blind		
	16 placebo-controlled studies that were conducted	d	
	17 using sildenafil; correct?		
	18 A. That's what it says in the first		
	19 paragraph on 40C and the title.		
	Q. And if you look on page 41C, toward	ls	
	21 the bottom, there's a sentence that reads,		
	22 "Similarly, the incidences of strokes were		
	23 consistent across double-blind studies in		
	24 sildenafil-treated, 0.4 per hundred patient		
	25 years, 95 percent confidence interval, negative	,	

1 Howard Pomeranz 2 0.1 to 0.9" -- I'm not sure if I'm reading that

	1				
1 Howard Pomeranz					
2 through it.					
3 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)					
4 Q. Just to direct you, I'm looking at					
5 page 41C in particular. It's a section that					
6 starts on the bottom of the prior page called,					
7 "Serious Cardiovascular Events."					
8 MR. BECNEL: Counsel, I don't					
9 believe anybody has had a chance to read					
this yet, and I'm still just picking and					
11 choosing parts.					
MS. LESKIN: That's why I helped					
direct the witness.					
MR. BECNEL: It's not a question					
5 whether you helped direct the witness.					
16 It's whether we've had the opportunities to					
17 read something we've not seen. You're not					
entitled to examine a witness until the					
19 fact is that we get to read it.					
20 MS. LESKIN: I haven't asked a					
single question yet, Mr. Becnel.					
Q. Did you look at the section at					
23 least, Doctor, that's entitled "Serious					
24 Cardiovascular Events" that starts at the bottom					
25 of page 40C and continues on the left column of					

3 correctly "and placebo-treated patients, 0.9				
4 per 100 patient years. And in open-label				
5 sildenafil studies, 0.3 per hundred patient				
6 years."				
7 Do you see that?				
8 A. Yes.				
9 Q. From those numbers, can you tell me				
10 whether there is an elevated rate of stroke among				
11 patients taking sildenafil as compared to				
12 patients taking placebo?				
(Witness peruses the exhibit.)				
14 A. It states it's 0.4 per 100 in				
15 sildenafil and 0.9 in placebo, so it seems to be				
16 less.				
17 Q. Are you aware of any study to the				
18 contrary regarding the rate of stroke among				
19 patients taking Viagra?				
20 MR. BECNEL: Objection.				
21 A. Well, since I'm not familiar with				
22 the literature, I can't answer your question and				
23 say that I do, since I'm not familiar with it.				
24 Q. So you're not familiar you're not				
25 aware of any other studies?				

122 124 **Howard Pomeranz** 1 **Howard Pomeranz** No, because I have not reviewed the A. 2 really developed it. Using the model that he 3 literature. 3 developed. Let's go back and talk about NAION Q. O. if you look at the top of page 21, 5 for a moment. 5 that first full sentence on that page, left 6 The mechanism of NAION is not well 6 column, says, "Currently there is no effective 7 understood; right? 7 treatment for this condition" -- referring to 8 A. Correct. 8 NAION -- "in part because the mechanisms and risk The risk factors for NAION are not Q. 9 factors that produce the disease are not well 10 well understood, are they? 10 understood." 11 Well, some I think have been A. 11 That's what you wrote; correct? 12 identified in some studies, but there's 12 Correct. 13 controversy about that as well. 13 Is it your belief that the Bernstein 14 So they're not well understood? Q. 14 rat model is an accurate portrayal of the cause 15 A. 15 of NAION? 16 Q. Yes, they are or, yes, they're not? 16 A. No. I think it's at best a good 17 I think some have been identified as 17 approximation. I think everyone understands 18 more highly correlative than others, in general 18 that. 19 scheme of things. 19 And can that model be used to O. 20 (Pomeranz 27, Article in 2006 Brain 20 determine whether an outside factor can cause the 21 Research entitled, "Histologic and 21 disease? Morphometric Evaluation of Transient 22 22 A. Well, I think the purpose of trying Retinal and Optic Nerve Ischemia in Rat," 23 23 to develop that model was to see if, by 24 by Dr. Danylkova and Dr. Pomeranz and 24 introducing other substances, either as something 25 others, marked for identification.) 25 that might be protective or potentially damaging 123 125 1 Howard Pomeranz Howard Pomeranz 2 MS. LESKIN: We marked as Exhibit 26 2 to the optic nerve - a model in which to study 3 an article from Brain Research in 2006, 3 that kind of paradigm. 4 "Histological and Morphometric Evaluation 4 But the rat model doesn't completely 5 of Transient Retinal and Optic Nerve 5 mimic the disease pathophysiology, does it? 6 Ischemia in Rat." A. No. I think it's a very difficult 7 MR. PENTON: Isn't that 27? 7 thing to do. You either have to be a very 8 MS. LESKIN: 27. 8 experienced microsurgeon or have other access to 9 MR. PENTON: I don't know. Maybe. 9 those deeper vessels to really produce a true 10 THE WITNESS: This one was 26. 10 model for the disease. So I think anything that 11 MS. LESKIN: Okay. I'm sorry. 11 anyone comes up with is at best an approximation. 12 Let's change that one. You're right. Let And does the Bernstein rat model 12 13 me start that again. 13 help you see what occurs to the optic nerve from 14 We've marked as Exhibit 27 an 14 a histopathological standpoint following the 15 article in 2006 Brain Research entitled, 15 insult? 16 "Histologic and Morphometric Evaluation of 16 A. Yes. It was really a means to study 17 Transient Retinal and Optic Nerve Ischemia 17 what kind of damage occurs to the nerve itself 18 in Rat," by Dr. Danylkova and Dr. Pomeranz 18 and to see if it might be used as a means to test 19 and others. 19 different substances that might help to decrease 20 Q. This is your study; correct? 20 the likelihood of damage in a situation where 21 A. Yes. 21 the -- where the circulation to the optic nerve And this is what we were referring 22 is compromised in some way. 23 to earlier, doing some investigative work on the

32 (Pages 122 to 125)

25

24 rat model that you helped develop; correct?

Well, it was Dr. Bernstein who

23

25

And is it, in your view, an accurate

Well, I think, given the fact that

24 portrayal of how NAION progresses then?

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 it's impossible to get exactly to these blood
- 3 vessels that we're talking about other than
- 4 through microsurgical techniques, you have to
- 5 develop something that is a good approximation of
- 6 what you hope to study.
- 7 One could argue that the rat isn't 8 the best model for studying this disease either
- 9 and it might be better suited to studying it in
- 10 monkeys, but you have to do the best with what 11 you have to do research.
- 12 Q. Have you attempted to reproduce that 13 model in a monkey?
- 14 A. I know Dr. Bernstein has. I don't 15 have the facilities where I am now, nor the 16 resources, to do that.
- 17 Q. Do you know the results of 18 Dr. Bernstein's work on that?
- 19 A. Well, I know he just presented his 20 research at ARVO this year and at least seemed to 21 show that it was a successful translation of that
- 22 model from the rodent to the primate. And I
- 23 think the work that he presented of course was 24 preliminary and much more works needs to be done.
- 25 Q. Using Bernstein's rat model, can you

- 1 Howard Pomeranz
 - 2 So there's some variability 3 obviously, when doing experiments on rodents,
 - 4 with doing some of those kinds of experiments.
 - 5 Q. The rats that were used in either 6 Bernstein's original development of the model or 7 any of the work that you have done since then
 - 8 using that model, are they healthy rats? Are 9 they atherosclerotic rats? What kind of shape
 - 10 are the rats in before you impose the insult?
 - 11 A. Healthy rats.
 - 12 Q. If you're doing -- strike that.
 - Have you looked at any of the animal 14 studies that Pfizer did on sildenafil during the 15 drug's development?
 - 16 A. Only to the extent of some of these 17 studies that I mentioned before that may have 18 been available by public access that I may have 19 looked at three, four, five years ago.
 - 20 Q. And which studies would those have 21 been, as far as you recall?
 - 22 A. It's been so long since I've looked 23 at them, I'd really have to look at my data. But 24 I know there were some studies I think that were 25 done in animals. I know there were some that

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- Howard Pomeranz
- 2 estimate how long after the insult it takes to 3 see damage in the optic nerve?
- 4 A. Well, the swelling occurs in the
- 5 optic nerve certainly within 24 hours. The 6 actual dropout or death or damage to the axons in
- 7 the optic nerve occur over the course of days to
- 8 weeks after that.
- 9 And I think Dr. Bernstein just 10 recently showed there are actually two phases.
- 11 One phase occurs within a very short period of 12 time, a week or two, and then there's a later
- 13 phase that occurs after that.
- 14 Q. Dr. Bernstein refers to changes in 15 the optic nerve, in the axons. Are there also 16 changes to the retinal layers that occur 17 following the ischemic insult?
- 18 A. I think there have been some19 conflicted results with that in our hands and our20 laboratory. There seem to be some experimental
- 21 results that suggested it -- that it may have
- 22 been a factor of how well the laser was applied
- 23 just to the surface of the optic nerve rather
- 24 than to some of the retinene that surrounded the 25 optic nerve.

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 were clinical trials. Whatever might have been 3 accessible that I could look at, I tried to do as 4 thorough a review as I could at the time, three 5 or four years ago.
- 6 Q. Did you look at any of the 7 histopathological examination results that were 8 done on those animals?
- 9 A. I think only inasmuch as there might 10 have been a description in some of the reports of 11 what was there. I don't think I looked -- I 12 mean, I didn't have access to the data itself, 13 just what was -- whatever was written in the 14 reports.
- 15 Q. And none of that was provided to you 16 in connection with this litigation?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. We had some discussion of some of 19 the risk factors that have been identified in the 20 literature, or potential risk factors; right?
- 21 A. Well, I don't think we discussed 22 them individually, but, yes.
- 23 Q. But you mentioned -- and you told me 24 that some of them are better characterized than 25 others; right?

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33 (Pages 126 to 129)

2

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1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Do you believe that high blood 4 pressure increase the risk of NAION?
- Well, patients who are being treated 6 for high blood pressure may be at risk. It may 7 not be that the blood pressure is high at the 8 time when it occurs. And Hayreh studies 9 certainly suggest that actually treatment of the 10 high blood pressure with medications that may 11 actually lower the blood pressure, the so-called 12 nocturnal hypotension that he's mentioned, may be 13 the risk factor.
- Other than Dr. Hayreh's work on 15 nocturnal hypotension, are you aware of any other 16 studies that show nocturnal hypotension as a risk 17 factor for NAION?
- 18 A. I don't think anyone else has had 19 the large population that he's had where he's 20 made those conclusions. So I think other people 21 have either concurred or disagreed with that, but 22 I'm not sure I've seen any reports where other 23 people have had an extensive number of patients 24 that they've looked at in a prospective fashion 25 that Dr. Hayreh has.

6 factors are all possibly abnormally affected in 7 individuals with microvascular disease, such as 8 hypertension and diabetes, commonly present in 9 patients with NAION and can be considered 10 predisposing factors for NAION."

Howard Pomeranz

4 possibly abnormally affected in individuals

5 with" -- referring to blood flow -- "These

You wrote in your report, in 3 discussing risk factors, "These factors are all 132

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So is hypertension considered a risk 11 12 factor for NAION?

- 13 Well, it's a factor that you A. 14 identify in the history of patients who you see 15 who commonly present with this disease.
- 16 So if a patient walked in to your 17 office with NAION and gave you a history of 18 hypertension, would you consider that as one of 19 the causes or potential causes of his NAION?
- Well, I'd say -- I'd call it one of 21 the risk factors that's identified with patients. 22 Whether in and of itself was the cause or not, as 23 opposed to a combination of other things, is hard 24 to say. But when you take a patient's history 25 and you ask them, What have you been under a

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 So do you believe that hypertension 3 in and of itself is a risk factor for NAION?
- Well, it is in the sense that when 5 you take a patient history for someone who 6 presents with the disease and you find out the 7 checkoff boxes on a history form, in terms of 8 what their under a doctor's care for,

9 hypertension is frequently found.

1

Whether it's the fact that at a time

11 when they actually developed the insult to their 12 optic nerve that they actually happened to have 13 elevated blood pressure at that time or it's the 14 treatment of their blood pressure that causes the 15 blood pressure to fall, I don't have the answer 16 to that. Simply part of the medical history you 17 identify in the patients when you examine them.

- And part of the reason you don't 19 have the answer to that in part is because we 20 don't know the mechanism of the disease?
- 21 Well, it's controversial. And 22 second, even if I measured the blood pressure of 23 a patient in my office, it isn't at all a 24 reflection of what might be going on at the time 25 that the vision loss occurred.

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- 2 doctor's care for, hypertension shows up very 3 frequently in these patients.
- Is high cholesterol a risk factor 4 Q. 5 for NAION?
- A. Again, like hypertension, has been a 7 common concomitant medical condition that 8 patients have who present with this.
- 9 Q. Is diabetes a risk factor for NAION?
- 10 A. Similar to the other two that I 11 mentioned.
- 12 Q. Ischemic heart disease a risk factor 13 for NAION?
- 14 Yes, I think all these things have A. 15 been mentioned by various studies that have 16 looked at risk factors for various patients.
- Do you know whether high blood 18 pressure is a risk factor for erectile 19 dysfunction?
- 20 A. I believe it is.
- 21 Q. And is high cholesterol a risk
- 22 factor for erectile dysfunction?
- 23 A. It most likely is.
- 24 Is diabetes a risk factor for Q. 25 erectile dysfunction?

34 (Pages 130 to 133)

		CASE 0:06-cv-01064-PAM	Document		
			134		
	1	Howard Pomeranz			
	2	A. That I definitely believe it	is.		
	3	Q. Is ischemic heart disease a			
i	4 factor for erectile dysfunction?				
	5	A. Most likely is.			
	6	Q. Is erectile dysfunction a ris	sk		
	7 factor for NAION?				
	8	A. Is erectile dysfunction a ris	sk		
	9 factor for NAION? Not that I'm aware of.				
I	10	Q. They have overlapping risk	c factors?		
	11	A. Yes, I think that's fair to sa	y.		
ļ	12	MS. LESKIN: When did we	e start?		
i	13	JUDGE BORG: 10:14. Yo	u're about an		
I	14	hour plus out. You want to take	another		
I	break here and then we can go into that				
١	16	12:30 time frame?			
l	17	MS. LESKIN: That would I	oe great.		
ĺ	18	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: S	ure. We're off		
l	19	the record. The time is 11:22. T	his is		
ĺ	20	the end of Tape 2.			
ı	21	(Recess from the record.)			
l	22	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: B			
l	23	record. The time is 11:55. This	is the		
l	24	beginning of Tape 3.			
ĺ	25 BY MS. LESKIN:				
ŀ	<u> </u>				
П					

136 1 Howard Pomeranz 2 MR. BECNEL: No problem. 3 Q. Before the break, we were talking 4 about -- earlier before the break, we were 5 talking about blood flow studies and the effect 6 of sildenafil on ocular blood flow. And I asked 7 you whether you were aware of any studies that 8 showed a decrease in blood flow to any of the 9 ocular vessels following the use of Viagra. 10 And you told me that you couldn't 11 think of any, but you wanted the opportunity to 12 look at the box of documents you brought with 13 you. 14 Have you now had the opportunity to 15 review that box of documents? A. Yes. 17 Have you been able to locate any Q. 18 documents, any studies discussing or showing --19 strike that. 20 Have you been able to locate any 21 studies demonstrating a drop in blood pressure to 22 the ocular vessels following the use of Viagra? Well, I haven't been able to really 24 read them in detail during the break, but there 25 are a variety of articles that say a variety of 137 Howard Pomeranz

Howard Pomeranz Dr. Pomeranz, I just want to go back 3 and cover a couple of things real quick. We marked as Exhibits 28 and 29 -- a 5 copy of stipulated protective order in effect in 6 this litigation as 28. And 29 is Exhibit A to 7 that order, acknowledgment and agreement to be 8 bound. 9 (Pomeranz 28, Stipulated Protective 10 Order, marked for identification.) 11 (Pomeranz 29, Exhibit A to 12 Protective Order, marked for 13 identification.) 14 Q. Have you ever seen Exhibit No. 28 15 before? 16 Α. No. 17 And I take it that no one has ever O. 18 asked you to read or sign what's marked as 19 Exhibit 29? 20 A. That's correct. 21 Q. Would you have an objection to 22 signing a document such as Number 29? 23 A. 24 Q.

Maybe during the next break we can

25 ask you to sign that so we have that in effect.

2 different things about what the effect of 3 sildenafil could be. So --Q. Is this pile of documents the ones 5 that you pulled out? A. Yes. 7 There are also papers that also 8 dispute or raise the issue of how accurate some 9 of the different studies are, and I certainly 10 don't claim to be an expert in that at all. And 11 as with any other clinician, I try to read the 12 literature as I see it and make a judgment. 13 Okay. So let's go through these. 14 First document you gave me looks 15 like some excerpts from the Joint Clinical Review 16 identified on the bottom. It says, "Joint 17 Clinical Review. We have pages 96, 97, 98, Roman 18 numeral VIII, page 160 and 161. 19 Do you know what the Joint Clinical 20 Review is? No. Those were the documents I was A. 22 referring to, some of which I pulled out of 23 Pfizer's website when I was initially looking 24 into this issue. So I just provided that because 25 you asked me what I had looked at.

1 Howard Pomeranz

Q. Okay. Can you show me where in this3 document it discusses ocular blood flow?

4 A. I didn't say that this document did.
5 I just pulled it out because you had asked me
6 earlier what were some of the Pfizer studies that
7 I had looked at. So I pulled it out so you could
8 see what they were.

9 Q. So this document entitled, "Joint 10 Clinical Review" is not -- does not discuss 11 ocular blood flow, as far as you know?

12 A. I don't think so. I just pulled it 13 out because you had asked me what things I had 14 looked at from Pfizer's material as part of my 15 review on the subject.

16 Q. I'll tell you what, why don't I give17 you back this pile and you show me which of those18 studies discuss ocular blood flow.

19 (Witness peruses documents.)

20 A. These are ones I think that we 21 talked about already (handing). And --

22 Q. Just for the record, "these" refers 23 to the Dundar paper, another copy of the Dundar 24 paper, Paris, Pache, Kurtulan, Koksal, Grunwald 25 2001 and Grunwald 2002; correct?

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2 contribute to triggering sildenafil-induced 3 migraine."

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4 Is there anything in this article 5 that discusses ocular blood flow?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Then you have an article from 8 Dr. Thompson and colleagues in JAMA,

9 December 2005, "Erectile Dysfunction and 10 Subsequent Cardiovascular Disease."

11 It says, "Conclusions: Erectile

12 dysfunction is a harbinger of cardiovascular 13 clinical events in some men. Erectile

14 dysfunction should prompt investigation and

15 intervention for cardiovascular risk factors."Now, that talks a little bit about

17 what we discussed earlier about the overlapping 18 risk factors between NAION and ED; right?

19 A. Right.

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20 Q. Is there any discussion in this 21 article about ocular blood flow?

22 A. I don't think so.

23 Q. Then we have another copy of the 24 Diomedi article and a commentary by Karen 25 Johnson -- Johnston from the same publication.

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And those are documents that we -4 that we discussed already earlier, before the 5 break?

6 A. Right.

7 Q. The rest of these documents -- wait. 8 This looks like an excerpt of Dundar. That's 9 another one we talked about before the break 10 (handing).

And the top one here is an article 12 entitled, "Sildenafil Increases Cerebral Vascular 13 Reactivity, A Transcranial Doppler Study," by 14 Diomedi, D-I-O-M-E-D-I, published in 2005, 15 Neurology.

And the abstract says, "The authors 17 performed a double-blind, placebo-controlled 18 study in 28 patients to evaluate the effects of 19 sildenafil on cerebral hemodynamics. A 20 significant improvement of cerebrovascular 21 reactivity without any modification of other 22 variables was recorded one hour after the 23 administration of 50 milligrams sildenafil. 24 Further investigations are needed to evaluate 25 whether cerebrovascular reactivity improvement

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 Does this at all discuss ocular 3 blood flow?

4 A. This talks about the brain.

5 Q. Okay. An article by Dr. Hayreh,

6 "Posterior Ciliary Artery Circulation in Health 7 and Disease: The Weisenfeld Lecture,"

8 Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science of 9 March 2004.

Does this discuss ocular blood flow 11 following use of Viagra?

12 A. Not following Viagra, but it talks
13 about cerebral blood flow in general and ways of
14 measuring it and -- but may be accurate or not

15 accurate about various measures.

16 Q. And there's an article, "The Blood17 Supply of the Optic Nerve Head and the Evaluation18 of It: Myth and Reality," by Dr. Hayreh,

19 Progress in Retinal and Eye Research, 2001.

20 Does this discuss ocular blood flow 21 following use of Viagra?

22 A. No, but again, it comments on

23 various ways of measuring ocular blood flow and 24 what their limitations or not might be.

25 Q. Then there's an article by --

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Howard Pomeranz

- 2 another article by Dr. Hayreh, "The 1994
- 3 von Sallmann Lecture: The Optic Nerve Head
- 4 Circulation in Health and Disease." It doesn't
- 5 say which publication it was published in, but 6 1995.
- 7 Does this article discuss ocular 8 blood flow following use of Viagra?
- 9 A. No. This is I believe from -- may 10 be from a textbook.
- 11 Q. It does not discuss blood flow 12 following use of Viagra?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. It looks to me the last article is,
- 15 "Blood Flow in the Optic Nerve Head and Factors
- 16 That May Influence It," again by Dr. Hayreh, in
- 17 Progress in Retinal and Eye Research, 2001.18 Does this article discuss blood
- 19 flow, ocular blood flow following use of Viagra?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Next you give me a case report by
- 22 Dr. Allivhai, A-L-L-I-V-H-A-I, "Central Serous
- 23 Chorial Retinopathy in a Patient Taking
- 24 Sildenafil Citrate," published in Ophthalmic
- 25 Surgery Lasers and Imaging, in March/April 2004.

- 1 Howard Pomeranz
- Q. Was it measuring blood flow in the 3 choroid?
- 4 A. They were measuring choroidal 5 thickness.
- 6 Q. Is that blood flow in the choroid?
- 7 A. The choroid is largely made up of 8 blood.
- 9 Q. Is that study purporting to measure 10 blood flow in the choroid?
- 11 A. No, it's measuring thickness of the 12 choroid.
- 13 Q. And then you've given me Dr. Paris 14 and Dr. Sponsel, which again we spoke about 15 earlier?
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. Are there any other studies that 18 you've reviewed discussing the measurement of 19 blood flow following -- to the ocular vessels 20 following use of Viagra?
- 21 A. I think I brought everything with me 22 that I have.
- 23 Q. Have you found any studies showing a 24 decrease in blood flow following Viagra use?
- 25 A. If I did, they're not here with me

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- 1 Howard Pomeranz
- 2 Does Dr. Allivhai discuss ocular
- 3 blood flow or the measurement of ocular blood
- 4 flow following use of Viagra?
- 5 A. I don't think they measured blood 6 flow, but they talked about implications that the
- 7 drug might have on blood flow in the choroid in 8 the eye.
- 9 Q. But they didn't measure blood flow?
- 10 A. No, this was a clinical case
- 11 description.
- 12 Q. Next you've given me an article by 13 Dr. Cully and colleagues in Ophthalmologica.
- 14 2002, "Effects of Sildenafil Citrate (Viagra) on
- 14 2002, "Effects of Sildenafil Citrate (Viagra) on 15 Choroidal Congestion."
- 16 And they conclude, based on the
- 17 abstract, "An oral dose of 200 milligrams of 18 sildenafil caused small inconsistent changes in
- 19 choroidal thickness which did not correlate with 20 visual effects"; right?
- 21 A. That's what it says.
- 22 Q. Does that article measure blood flow 23 to the optic nerve?
- A. No, they were measuring in the 25 choroid.

- 1 Howard Pomeranz
 - 2 today. So there are none others that I can 3 produce for you. The answer is probably no, but, 4 you know, the best that I can tell you at this
 - 5 point.
 - 6 Q. We're here to take your deposition 7 prior to briefing on some motions, and so we need 8 to know everything you've relied on at this point 9 in time.
- So as of this point in time, are you 11 aware of any studies that shows a decrease in 12 ocular blood flow following use of Viagra?
- 13 A. To the optic nerve, to all the 14 vessels to the choroid, to the best of my
- 15 recollection, no, unless there's something else 16 in here that I'm just, you know, not aware of at 17 this point.
- 18 Q. You've had the opportunity to review 19 your box. We've gone through the articles you 20 pulled out. Do any of those studies demonstrate 21 a decrease in blood flow to the optic vessels 22 following use of Viagra?
- A. Not that we reviewed.
- Q. Are you aware of any other studies25 that show a decrease in blood flow to the optic

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1 Howard Pomeranz

2 vessels following use of Viagra?

- 3 A. Not at this time.
- 4 Q. You mentioned earlier a patient who 5 had edema prior to the loss of any visual field 6 in NAION. Do you have any data which identifies 7 the percentage of patients with NAION in which 8 that occurs?
- 9 A. Not in my own patient population.
- 10 Q. Are you aware of any data that is 11 published by others that shows the incident rate 12 at which patients with NAION present with edema 13 prior to the onset of any visual field loss?
- 14 A. Hayreh may be -- I think Hayreh has 15 done that, but I'm not aware of anybody else.
- 16 Q. So whatever is out there is what 17 Dr. Hayreh has published?
- 18 A. As far as I'm aware.
- 19 Q. So if -- strike that.
- Now, you know -- and we've kind of 21 been using them interchangeable, but Viagra's 22 chemical name is sildenafil; right?
- 23 A. Correct.
- 24 Q. And it's sold for erectile
- 25 dysfunction as Viagra; right?

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2 represent to you is the FDA's review of the 3 scientific application that Pfizer presented to

4 the FDA. Have you read anything else regarding

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- 5 any of the studies on Viagra?
- 6 A. From Pfizer, you mean?
- 7 Q. Yes.

11 review.

- 8 A. Only to the extent to what I
 9 remembered that was on the CD of documents that
 10 was given to me that I had a brief chance to
- 12 Q. And what documents do you recall 13 from that CD?
- 14 A. Well, I recall some documents where, 15 at some of the meetings, they had they discussed 16 whether certain things should be reported or not 17 or in what way.
- 18 Q. Anything else?
- 19 A. That's relevant to what you asked 20 me, I don't think so.
- 21 Q. Do any of the documents that you 22 reviewed affect your opinion on causation in this 23 case, the internal Pfizer documents?
- 24 A. No.

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Q. What is your understanding of the

Howard Pomeranz

2 A. Yes.

1

- 3 Q. And as you mentioned earlier, it's 4 sold to treat pulmonary hypertension as Revatio; 5 correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Sildenafil is one of a class of 8 drugs known as PDE5 inhibitors; correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. You know there are other drugs out 11 there that are PDE5 inhibitors, including 12 tadalafil or vardenafil; right?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. Do you know the differences in 15 chemical composition between sildenafil, 16 tadalafil and vardenafil?
- 17 A. Not the details of them, no.
- 18 Q. Do you know any of the differences 19 in the pharmacology of those drugs?
- 20 A. To the extent of how long they're
 21 supposed to remain in the body, I believe Cialis
 22 is supposed to last for a longer period of time;
- Q. You had some papers in that pilefrom the Joint Clinical Review, which I'll

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 mechanism by which Viagra works for its intended 3 purposes?
- 4 A. Well, it inhibits an enzyme that's 5 involved in dilation of blood vessels in the 6 penis and allows that dilation to remain 7 established for a longer period of time.
- 8 Q. What is your understanding of the 9 impact of sildenafil on nitric oxide levels?
- 10 A. Well, I know that both are involved.
 11 There are various pathways involved in inducing
 12 constriction or dilation of blood vessels in the
 13 body and that nitric oxide is involved in that
 14 process. Again, I don't purport myself to be an
 15 expert in that area. I just read the literature
 16 to the best of my ability to understand it the
 17 best I can.
- 18 Q. Do you have an opinion as to whether 19 Viagra affects the levels of nitric oxide?
- 20 A. No, I don't think I've purported an 21 opinion regarding that, other than the fact that 22 it may do something to alter the body's control 23 or the regulation of those such things, but I 24 don't think I put forth any specific mechanism.
- Q. Do you believe that Viagra has an

38 (Pages 146 to 149)

23 but beyond that, no.

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 effect on the levels of nitric oxide?
- 3 A. I can't say that I know enough about 4 the details of those things to tell you that I
- 5 have an opinion about it. I think either that 6 research is ongoing or remains to be seen.
- 7 Q. Are you aware of any studies showing 8 Viagra causes vasoconstriction of any vessels in 9 the body?
- 10 A. I think there are papers that I've 11 read that have had conflicting results in terms 12 of effects of Viagra on blood vessels in the eye. 13 But as a clinician, I really don't have the means 14 to critically judge a lot of these papers.
- And so sometimes it's hard to put 16 papers side by side because of different patient 17 populations in which the studies have been done, 18 length of time that they've been studied, whether 19 there's a patient population that had coincident 20 risk factors. Things like that make it hard to 21 put a lot of these studies side by side and 22 directly compare one to another.
- 23 So as any other clinician does in a 24 similar situation, you try to get a gist of what 25 the literature is like and try to draw

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 the half-life of sildenafil is?
- 3 A. Inasmuch as I learned about that as 4 a medical student, yes.
- 5 Q. What's the half-life of Viagra?
- 6 A. The time that it takes for half of 7 the medication to disappear from the body.
- 8 Q. What is that period of time for 9 sildenafil?
- 10 A. If I recall, it's something in the 11 manner of hours.
- 12 Q. For how long is a patient under a 13 pharmacological effect of sildenafil after taking 14 the drug?
- 15 A. I guess for as long as the body -- 16 the drug in total is present in the body.
- 17 Q. Do you have an understanding of how 18 long that is?
- 19 A. I think it could be as long as a 20 day.
- 21 Q. Twenty-four hours?
- 22 A. Yes.

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- 23 Q. Is it your hypothesis that Viagra 24 can cause NAION?
- 25 A. No. At this time, I described in my

1 Howard Pomeranz 2 conclusions.

- 3 Q. Which studies show that Viagra 4 causes vasoconstriction in the vessels in the 5 eye?
- 6 A. I don't know if they talked about 7 specific -- I can't really recall off the top of 8 my head.
- 9 Q. Well, you have the ones we went 10 through here today in front of you. You're 11 welcome to take a look and see if any of those 12 talk about vasoconstriction. You say that there 13 are papers that have conflicting results about 14 the effects of Viagra on blood vessels in the 15 eye.
- My question is --
- 17 A. Right. It doesn't necessarily mean 18 constriction or dilation. It may have to do with 19 blood flow through blood vessels as well.
- 20 Q. Let's go back to my question.
- Are you aware of any papers or any 22 studies that show that Viagra causes
- 23 vasoconstriction of any blood vessel in the body?
- A. Not that I'm aware of.
- Q. Do you have an understanding of what

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 papers that there's a temporal association
- 3 between the two. And I've put forth possible
- 4 hypotheses, but I don't purport to have a
- 5 mechanistic answer to that.
- 6 I think it's -- because no one 7 understands completely what the mechanism of
- 8 NAION is, to incite something as being a specific
- 9 cause without necessarily knowing all the
- 10 pathophysiology that underlies a condition I 11 think is difficult to do.
- 12 Q. Are you aware of any studies that 13 show an increased rate of NAION in patients 14 taking Viagra as compared to patients not taking 15 Viagra?
- 16 A. I think there are epidemiological 17 studies that have been carried out, as imperfect 18 as they are, that have tried to look at that. 19 And unfortunately, I think when you have an event 20 that is as uncommon as NAION, it's very difficult 21 to do those kinds of studies.
- 22 Retrospective studies are always 23 different. And the best way to try to do those 24 is on a prospective basis. And given the rarity 25 of this kind of condition, you'd have to carry

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39 (Pages 150 to 153)

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Howard Pomeranz

13 definitively proven or disproven.

2 out those studies for long periods of time before 3 getting some kind of definitive results.

- So the epi studies that have been 5 done do not demonstrate an increased rate of 6 NAION in patients taking Viagra?
- A. I think it shows some minimal 8 increase. I think using the epidemiological 9 numbers that they come up with, which I don't 10 pretend to be intimately familiar with, I'm not 11 an epidemiologist, they suggest a trend towards 12 increase. But I don't think anything has been
- Are you aware of any clinical 15 studies that compare a group of patients taking 16 Viagra with a group of patient taking placebo 17 that show a higher rate of NAION in patients 18 taking Viagra?
- A. No, I'm not aware of that. I think 20 doing that kind of study would be fraught with 21 all kinds of ethical problems, to take a group of 22 patients and say, Here's a drug that potentially 23 could cause you to have some permanent vision 24 loss and let's see if you develop them, compared 25 to a group that's not taking them. I think it

Howard Pomeranz

2 how Viagra can possibly cause NAION, those are 3 all hypothetical at best; right?

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- Yes, I think they're hypotheses. I 5 don't think they've been proven or disproven, at 6 least in my opinion.
- And the role sildenafil may play in 8 causing injury to the optic nerve is not known; 9 right?
- 10 You mean the mechanism by which it 11 might do that? Is that what you're asking me?
- 12 I'm asking you about the role that 13 sildenafil may play in causing injury.
- Well, I think -- yes, I think there 15 are definite opinions about that, about whether 16 it may be a concomitant risk factor with the 17 other medical risk factors that we talked about 18 already.
- 19 (Pomeranz 30, Article by Howard 20 Pomeranz and colleagues entitled, 21
- "Sildenafil-Associated Nonarteritic 22 Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy,"
- 23 published in the Journal of Ophthalmology
- 24 in 2002, marked for identification.) 25
 - MS. LESKIN: We've marked as

Howard Pomeranz

2 would be unethical to set up any kind of study 3 like that.

- Q. Have you -- you talked about this 5 briefly. Have you looked at any of the results 6 of the clinical trials that Pfizer did during the 7 development of Viagra?
- A. Only the ones I showed you.
- And do any of those discuss any 10 events of NAION, as far as you can tell?
- 11 My only recollection is looking 12 through the documents that were -- some of the 13 confidential documents from Pfizer, I think they 14 attempted to try to do that and look at various 15 clinical studies. And my recollection is that I 16 think they found maybe one or two cases or 17 something like that, but that's --
- 18 Q. What's that based on, that 19 recollection?
- A. The documents that were in the CD of 21 documents that were deposed from Pfizer, I 22 believe, where some of those studies were 23 discussed.
- Now, I think you mentioned this. 25 The proposed mechanisms that are out there as to

1 **Howard Pomeranz**

- 2 Exhibit 30 an article by Howard Pomeranz
- 3 and colleagues entitled,
- 4 "Sildenafil-Associated Nonarteritic
- 5 Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy,"
- 6 published in the Journal of Ophthalmology 7 in 2002.
- 8 Q. This is again one of your articles; 9 correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And this is your first case series: 12 right?
- 13 A. That's right.
- 14 And looking on page 386, on the Q. 15 right column, the top line there, you wrote, "The 16 role sildenafil may play in causing injury to the 17 optic nerve is not known."
- 18 Right?
- 19 Right. A.
- 20 Q. And going back to your editorial, 21 which we marked earlier as Exhibit 12, the one 22 you wrote with Dr. Fraunfelder, you wrote there, 23 "A well-researched explanation as to how 24 sildenafil therapy could cause NAION does not

25 exist."

158 160 1 Howard Pomeranz 1 Howard Pomeranz 2 Right? 2 A. Correct. 3 A. Correct, because we don't understand 3 Q. You didn't believe it was probable, 4 the exact mechanism by which NAION works. So to 4 you believed it was possible; right? 5 purport that we have that for a drug in a The opinion of the three authors 6 black-box situation to the optic nerve is saying 6 together here is that it's possible. The thing 7 almost the same thing. 7 that convinces me of more than just a possible And you also wrote there "Until an 8 association is the temporal association between 9 animal model or scientific study reveals a 9 taking the drug and the onset of vision loss. 10 biological basis for NAION caused by treatment In May 2006, you put your name on an 11 with sildenafil, most of the case reports of 11 editorial that was published in the Archives of 12 NAION related to this drug may be an expected 12 Ophthalmology that said the association is 13 coincidence, as sildenafil is a top-selling 13 possible; right? 14 medication and patients who receive this drug are 14 A. Yes. 15 frequently older, vasculopathic and already at 15 Q. And you put your name on an 16 risk for NAION." 16 editorial that appeared in the Archives of 17 Right? 17 Ophthalmology on a paper that said that the case A. Well, that was more of an opinion I 18 18 reports of -- most of the case reports of NAION 19 think of Dr. Fraunfelder than me. Sometimes when 19 related to this drug may be an expected 20 you write a paper and you collaborate together, 20 coincidence --21 you come up with the best you can and you 21 A. Yes. 22 compromise. 22 -- right? But I think if you look at an e-mail 23 Your name's on this editorial; 24 that Dr. Fraunfelder sent to me, he kind of 24 correct? 25 behind the paper said that there may be more of a 25 A. Yes. 159 161 Howard Pomeranz 1 Howard Pomeranz 2 possible association rather than the not for 2 Did you ever write a subsequent 3 this. So I think that statement is taken with a 3 letter to the Archives of Ophthalmology that 4 grain of salt. 4 said, Gee, I don't agree with Dr. Fraunfelder and Q. Well, in fact, you wrote here on the 5 Egan, I think it's more than that? 6 left column, "From this data, the association Not in response to this 7 between sildenafil and NAION is possible, 7 specifically, but I've written other articles 8 according to World Health Organization criteria 8 elsewhere that expresses my individual opinion on 9 that require that a clinical event occurs within 9 the matter. 10 a reasonable time from drug administration." 10 Going back to your presentation you 11 A. Right. 11 gave to your scientific colleagues that we marked 12 Q. And that's what you wrote in the 12 previously as Exhibit 13. This is a presentation 13 paper; right? 13 we spoke about earlier. And you gave this to A. Correct. 14 your -- other scientists and medical doctors; 15 You wrote, "However, this 15 correct? 16 classification also allows that a concurrent 16 A. No, this was to ophthalmologists at 17 disease or the ingestion of other drugs or 17 the Academy of Ophthalmology. 18 chemicals can cause NAION." 18 Q. Are ophthalmologists medical 19 Right? 19 doctors? 20 A. That's what it says. 20 A. Yes.

41 (Pages 158 to 161)

21

22

24

Q.

A.

Q.

25 scientist?

23 ophthalmologists.

So this --

Not necessarily scientists, but

You don't consider yourself a

21

23

24

22 right?

Q.

O.

Possible.

25 WHO criteria is probable; right?

And that's what "possible" means;

And a different classification under

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 · I wouldn't say all ophthalmologists A. 3 are scientists per se. They're physicians. If 4 you mean a Ph.D. versus an M.D. --
- This is a presentation you gave to 6 other ophthalmologists; correct?
- 7 That's right. A.

1

- If you look at the last page of that 8 Q. 9 presentation, you wrote, "Unclear, controversial 10 erectile dysfunction drugs."
- 11 A. That's right. I think that's 12 entirely consistent with the statement that you 13 were bringing up before about possible versus 14 probable versus not and if we don't know the 15 answer for sure. That's why I think it's unclear 16 or controversial.
- O. In your report, you discuss the weak 18 inhibitory activity that sildenafil has against 19 PDE6; right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Does PDE6 have anything to do with 21 O. 22 NAION?
- 23 Not that I'm aware of. I believe A. 24 it's just an effect on retinal cells.
- And the blue-green light effect

Howard Pomeranz

2 do those -- have those patients reported seeing a 3 blue flash or lightning or blue effect prior to 4 visual loss in NAION?

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- Well, patients describe disturbances 6 in their vision sometimes before the onset of 7 what turns out to be permanent vision loss. Do I 8 recall a patient who said specifically that he or 9 she had blue or green color changes as opposed to 10 other colors, I don't know. It's possible.
- 11 But sitting here today, do you 12 recall any patient ever telling you or reading 13 anywhere in the literature, absent use of Viagra, 14 that they saw a blue color to their vision prior 15 to the onset of NAION or visual loss?
- Α. All that I can recall is that 17 there's some patients who have described having 18 disturbances in their vision that may affect 19 their color vision. Whether they specifically 20 said it was blue-green, I don't recall.
- 21 O. Are you aware of any studies 22 demonstrating an increase of NAION following the 23 use of antihypertensive medications?
- 24 A. Can you ask that again? 25
 - Q. Sure.

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- **Howard Pomeranz**
- 2 that's been reported in conjunction with 3 sildenafil use, do you believe that's due to PDE6 4 or PDE5 inhibition?
- Most likely PDE6. A.
- So does the blue-green tinge to 6 Q. 7 light effect that's been reported with Viagra 8 have anything to do with NAION?
- Well, that color change has been 10 associated with changes transitory that occur in 11 the retina due to PDE6. There's some patients 12 who describe, as we described before, we talked 13 about earlier, visual disturbances that may occur 14 prior to the onset of the permanent vision loss. 15 And some of those patients describe color or 16 other types of changes.
- So it would really be necessary in 18 an individual patient to get detail about what 19 they actually are perceiving before the onset of 20 vision loss. In some cases, it might be the 21 effect of PDE6 transiently on the retina; in 22 other cases, it might be a premonitory symptom 23 that might ultimately lead to ischemic optic 24 neuropathy.
- Q. In patients who do not take Viagra,

1 **Howard Pomeranz**

Are you aware of any clinical 3 studies that show an increase in the incidence of 4 NAION in patients taking antihypertensive 5 medications as compared to patients not taking 6 antihypertensive medications?

- I know there have been studies that 8 have looked at hypertension as a risk factor. 9 I'm not sure they were studied specifically in 10 the way that you've put your question. I think 11 they were designed more to see if hypertension 12 was a risk factor per se. So I'm not aware of a 13 specific study phrased in the way that you asked 14 the question.
- 15 Q. Do you believe that nitrates cause 16 NAION?
- 17 Do nitrates cause NAION? Not that Α. 18 I'm aware of.
- Q. In your report, you make reference 20 to cases of challenge/rechallenge involving PDE5 21 inhibitors; correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Which of the case reports involving O. 24 sildenafil that have been published do you 25 believe represent a challenge/rechallenge case?

42 (Pages 162 to 165)

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 A. Well, certainly I believe the first 3 case report that was described is, because the 4 patient described taking the drug initially and 5 then taking it again.
- 6 Q. Any others?
- 7 A. I think out of the other case
- 8 reports, I don't recall that there were
- 9 challenge/rechallenge data there except for the
- 10 fact that one eye became affected in one patient 11 and then subsequently the other eye with
- 12 continued use of the drug.
- 13 Q. So which other patient do you 14 believe are a challenge/rechallenge case?
- 15 A. I think one is in a sense because 16 both eyes were involved.
- 17 Q. One from which article?
- 18 A. The 2005 review, Case No. 1 that's 19 in the table.
- 20 Q. Uh-huh. Present study, Number 1?
- 21 A. Right.
- Q. Which other ones are
- 23 challenge/rechallenge?
- A. Well, I have to go back through the 25 histories and read them all over again to see if

1 Howard Pomeranz

- 2 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
- A. It says in this affidavit that he
- 4 was taking Zoloft, Zocoletrol [ph] and aspirin.5 This one says the medications were just

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- 6 sertraline and omeprazole. So I'm not sure it's 7 the same patient.
- 8 Q. Okay. You read through the case
- 9 report as you've described it in your article.
 10 You say first that "One day before presentation,
- 10 You say first that "One day before presentation, 11 he took one 25-milligram sildenafil tablet before
- 12 intercourse, after not having used the medication
- 13 for several months. A few hours later after
- 14 intercourse, he saw bright colors followed by
- 15 loss of vision in the right eye and soreness 16 around the eye."
- 17 Correct?
- 18 A. That's what it says, yes.
- 19 Q. And then on the right column, the 20 bottom paragraph says, "A repeat sedimentation 21 rate three months later was three. Four months 22 after initial presentation, the patient noted
- 23 progressive visual loss in the left eye."
- 24 Correct?25 A. Yes.

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Howard Pomeranz

- 2 there's description of the patient taking the
- 3 drug first and losing vision temporarily and
- 4 going back again. I have to look through them 5 all again.
- 6 Q. You have 1 through 7 there. And the 7 first five, Exhibit 30 --
- 8 A. Right. And Number -- well, the one 9 that says, "Pomeranz, et al.," in the list there, 10 the first one I believe -- the patient 52 years 11 old, I think that's the same patient that was 12 described in the initial case report in 2000.
- 13 Q. Okay. Anyone else?
- 14 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
- 15 A. No, out of these case series, would 16 just be the two that I mentioned.
- 17 Q. So let's take a look at Case No. 1 18 in the case series you were just looking at. 19 That's the 2005 article.
- Now, if you can pull out for me the 21 affidavit you submitted in Mr. Grant's case.
- 22 A. Okay.
- Q. Case No. 1 in the 2005 case series,
- 24 that's Mr. Grant, isn't it?
- 25 A. Let's see.

1 Howard Pomeranz

- Q. Based on the information you 3 provided here, did the patient take Viagra prior 4 to noting this initial — progressive visual loss 5 in the left eye?
- 6 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
- 7 A. Yes. If you look in the next 8 paragraph there, it says at the top of the next 9 page, "Three weeks later, the patient took 10 another 25-milligram dose of sildenafil and 11 subsequently engaged in sexual intercourse."
- 12 Q. Okay. So is it your testimony then 13 that the three weeks later, referring to the next 14 dose of sildenafil, occurred before or after he 15 noticed the progressive visual loss in the left 16 eye?
- 17 (Witness peruses the exhibit.)
- 18 A. It looks like it was afterwards.
- 19 Q. Let's go to your Exhibit 30, which
- 20 is the first case series you talked about. It's
- 21 your other case series. I don't know if you have 22 it.
- 23 A. I see. Okay.
- Q. And you identify Patient 1 as a
- 25 challenge/rechallenge case; correct?

43 (Pages 166 to 169)

1 Howard Pomeranz

2 -A. Yes.

3

12

1

- Q. In fact, I think you have a
- 4 longer -- I'm going to give you -- we'll mark
- 5 Exhibit 31, the initial publication.
- (Pomeranz 31, Letter to the Editor 6
- 7 from Robert Egan and Howard Pomeranz published in the Archives of Ophthalmology
- 8 9 in February of 2005, entitled, "Sildenafil
- 10 (Viagra) Associated Anterior Ischemic Optic
- 11 Neuropathy," marked for identification.)
 - MS. LESKIN: Exhibit 31 is a letter to the editor from Robert Egan and Howard
- 13 14 Pomeranz published in the Archives of
- Ophthalmology in February of 2005, 15
- entitled, "Sildenafil (Viagra) Associated 16
- 17 Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy."
- 18 It's not a letter to the editor. A.
- 19 It's a short report.
- So the short report that's published Ο.
- 21 here on Exhibit 31, that's the same as Patient
- 22 No. 1 in your case series of 2002; correct?
- 23 Α. Correct.
- 24 So with a little bit more detail on
- 25 Exhibit 31, a little bit longer, let's take a

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 some progression in visual field or drop in
- 3 acuity that the patient may or may not have been 4 aware of.

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- O. Can you say with any certainty that 6 there was progression the next night in his 7 visual loss?
- A. No. You can only demonstrate what 9 was shown on exam when the patient was examined 10 five days later.
- 11 Q. And based on his history?
- 12 Well, his vision was 20/20, so he
- 13 certainly didn't lose any acuity. He could have 14 lost more visual field.
- Q. Did he tell you he lost more visual 16 field between the first night and the second 17 night?
- 18 A. It says he experienced a recurrence 19 of the same symptoms.
- O. It also says the blurry vision in 20
- 21 the left eye did not change; right?
- A. Yes. But in this report, it says 22
- 23 the blurry vision in the left eye persisted.
- 24 Does that mean it changed? 25
 - Well, obviously his visual acuity on A.

Howard Pomeranz

- 2 look at your description here. "52-year-old man
- 3 took his first dose of 50 milligrams of
- 4 sildenafil citrate in the evening and within one
- 5 hour sweating and a severe generalized headache
- 6 developed. He saw blue 'lightning bolts' and
- 7 reported blurry vision in both eyes. This lasted
- 8 30 minutes, but the vision in the left eye
- 9 remained blurred inferiorly."
- 10 That's how you describe the case?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 And then you talk about he had no
- 13 erection, he didn't have sex, he tried the
- 14 medication the next night with a recurrence of
- 15 the same symptoms. The blurry vision of the left
- 16 eye did not change; correct?
- 17 A. That's the patient's description, 18 yes.
- So when you say rechallenge, the 20 symptoms that he had that recurred the next night
- 21 were the sweating, the severe generalized
- 22 headache, and the blue lightning bolts, but the
- 23 blurred vision did not change; right?
- As the patient described it, yes.
- 25 But that isn't to say that there might have been

- **Howard Pomeranz**
 - 2 the eye chart didn't change, because it was 3 20/20. There may have been a change in his
 - 4 visual field loss.

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- O. Can you sit here with any certainty 6 and tell me that there was a change in his visual 7 field between the first night and the second
- 8 night use of Viagra?
- Patient certainly seemed to imply 10 that from what he told us.
- Show me where it says -- in this
- 12 paragraph that you wrote describing this case it 13 says that there was a worsening of his vision.
- 14 It says that the vision in the left
- 15 eye remained blurry inferiorly.
- That's after the first night. Where 16 17 does it say it changed or got worse the second 18 night?
- 19 It says he tried the medication
- 20 again the next night and experienced a recurrence
- 21 of the same symptoms. The blurry vision in the
- 22 left eye persisted. A recurrence of the same
- 23 symptoms means something that happened before 24 happened again when he used the drug again.
- You wrote, the first time you

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174 Howard Pomeranz	176 1 Howard Pomeranz
2 published this, "The blurry vision in the left	2 erectile dysfunction and hyperlipidemia."
3 eye did not change."	3 Right?
4 Right, that's what you wrote?	4 A. Yes.
5 A. Yes.	
	1
6 MS. LESKIN: This is a good time for	6 fact you discuss it on paragraph 16, the other
7 a break for lunch.	7 that the other risk factors Mr. Grant had for
8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the	8 NAION include hypertension, hyperlipidemia and
9 record. The time is 12:45. This is the	9 small cup-to-disc ratio; right?
10 end of Tape 3.	10 A. Yes.
(Luncheon recess from the record.)	11 Q. If a patient like Mr. Grant, the
12	12 exact same medical history, came into your office
13	13 and everything was exactly the same as described
14	14 in his medical records except he did not take
15	15 Viagra, what would you say first of all, would
16	16 you be surprised by that, that a patient with
17	17 those risk factors could have NAION?
18	18 A. No.
19	19 Q. What would you say caused his NAION
20	20 in those circumstances?
21	21 A. Some alteration in blood supply to
22	22 his optic nerve.
23	23 Q. What would that have been caused by?
24	24 A. Some combination of the risk factors
25	25 listed there.
175	
1 Howard Pomeranz	177 1 Howard Pomeranz
2 AFTERNOON SESSION	2 Q. And that combination would have been
3 DR. HOWARD POMERANZ,	3 sufficient in your mind to cause NAION in a
4 having been previously sworn, resumed the	4 patient?
5 stand and testified further as follows:	5 A. Yes.
6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the	6 MS. LESKIN: I have no further
7 record. The time is 1:26. This is the	7 questions of the witness at this time.
8 beginning of Tape 4.	8 We'll reserve the remaining time that we
9 MS. LESKIN: Just for the record,	9 have.
during the break, Dr. Pomeranz signed a	10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Gentlemen.
11 copy of the undertaking that's attached to	11 MR. BECNEL: I just have one or two.
the stipulated protective order. And we	12 EXAMINATION
will consider that retroactive till the	13 BY MR. BECNEL:
date of his receipt of the documents.	14 Q. Dr. Pomeranz, you met me for the
15 MR. BECNEL: Thank you.	15 first time this morning at breakfast?
16 EXAMINATION (Cont'd)	16 A. Yes.
17 BY MS. LESKIN:	
18 Q. Dr. Pomeranz, if you can take a look	17 Q. And during breakfast, we talked with 18 you about 30 minutes at most?
19 with me at your affidavit regarding Jimmy Grant.	19 A. Correct.
	LLZ PS SAULESA I
120 I think that's	
20 I think that's	20 Q. We came over here?
21 MR. PENTON: Exhibit 7.	20 Q. We came over here? 21 A. Yes.
21 MR. PENTON: Exhibit 7. 22 MS. LESKIN: 7?	20 Q. We came over here? 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Everything you had to say, nobody
21 MR. PENTON: Exhibit 7. 22 MS. LESKIN: 7? 23 MR. PENTON: Yes.	 Q. We came over here? A. Yes. Q. Everything you had to say, nobody prepped you, nobody told you what to say or asked
21 MR. PENTON: Exhibit 7. 22 MS. LESKIN: 7? 23 MR. PENTON: Yes. 24 Q. If you look at paragraph 9, it says,	20 Q. We came over here? 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Everything you had to say, nobody 23 prepped you, nobody told you what to say or asked 24 you what to put down in any reports or anything
21 MR. PENTON: Exhibit 7. 22 MS. LESKIN: 7? 23 MR. PENTON: Yes.	 Q. We came over here? A. Yes. Q. Everything you had to say, nobody prepped you, nobody told you what to say or asked

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1 Howard Pomeranz	1 2 June 8 2007
2 A. That's right.	2 June 8, 2007 3 INDEX
3 Q. And you have looked and talked to	4 WITNESS EXAMINATION BY PAGE
4 Mr. James Thompson, have you not? 5 A. I spoke to him, yes.	5
6 Q. And that was via phone?	HOWARD POMERANZ
7 A. By phone.	6
8 Q. And you had his records that	7 MS. LESKIN 7
9 Mr. Penton referred him to you with, some of the	MR. BECNEL 177
10 medical records?	8 9 EXHIBITS
11 A. Yes.	9 EXHIBITS 10 PAGE
12 MR. BECNEL: Thank you. I have no	11 l Subpoena 7
13 further questions.	122 CV of Howard Pomeranz 12
14 JUDGE BORG: Miss Leskin, anything	13 3 Medical Malpractice Expert Witness 15
15 else?	14 Cases that have gone to trial by
16 MS. LESKIN: I don't have anything	Dr. Pomeranz
17 unless Mr. Penton has questions.	Memorandum dated April 7, 2004, to 24
18 MR. PENTON: I have none.	 17 Attorneys from Pomeranz 185 Plaintiff's Expert Disclosure 26
MS. LESKIN: We have no questions.	19 pursuant to CPLR SEC. 3101(d)
JUDGE BORG: Thanks, folks. See you	206 Affidavit of Howard Pomeranz, M.D., 34
21 next week.	21 Ph.D, dated September, 3, 2002
THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are finished	227 Affidavit of Howard Pomeranz, M.D., 38
for today. The time is 1:29. We're off	23 Ph.D, September 30, 2002
24 the record.	248 Affidavit of Howard Pomeranz, M.D., 41
25	Ph.D, dated February 22, 2005
179	191
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1 2 STATE OF NEW YORK) 3 ss:	1
1 2 STATE OF NEW YORK 3 ss: 4 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER)	1 2 (Continued) 3 EXHIBITS 4
1 2 STATE OF NEW YORK 3 ss: 4 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER) 5	1 2 (Continued) 3 EXHIBITS 4 5 9 Expert Report of Howard D. 44
1 2 STATE OF NEW YORK 3 ss: 4 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER) 5 6	1 2 (Continued) 3 EXHIBITS 4 5 9 Expert Report of Howard D. 44 6 Pomeranz, M.D., Ph.D, Pursuant to
1 2 STATE OF NEW YORK 3 ss: 4 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER) 5 6 7 I, HOWARD POMERANZ, the witness herein,	1 2 (Continued) 3 EXHIBITS 4 5 9 Expert Report of Howard D. 44 6 Pomeranz, M.D., Ph.D, Pursuant to 7 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
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5 13	PowerPoint presentation entitled, 57	5 23	Article by Dr. Pache entitled, 108
6	"Optic Neuropathy: What are your	6	"Sildenafil Induces Retinal
7	patients eating and what meds are	7	Vasodilatation in Healthy
8	they taking?" by Howard Pomeranz	8	Subjects," published in the British
9 14	February 2, 2006, letter from 62	9	Journal of Ophthalmology, 2002
10	Michele Parfitt and the expert	10 24	Article by Dr. Palak, "Effects of 109
11 12 15	retainer agreement	11	Sildenafil on Retinal Blood Flow
13	Article entitled, "The Effects of 98	12	and Flicker-Induced Retinal
13	Sildenafil on Ocular Blood Flow," with Murat Koksal as the lead	13	Vasodilation in Healthy Subjects,"
15	author	14	published in Investigative
16 16		15 16	Ophthalmology and Visual Science, November 2003
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18	Research in 2004	18	Letter to the Editor signed by 115 Robert A. Egan and Howard Pomeranz,
19 17	Article entitled, "Sildenafil Does 101	19	appearing in Neurology in 2002,
20	Not Alter Retrobulbar Hemodynamics	20	entitled, "Transient Ischemic
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22	Taner in Neuro-Ophthalmology, 2005	22	Sildenafil (Viagra) Use"
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24	Sildenafil on Ocular Hemodynamics,"	24	
25	published in Eye, 2001	25	·
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4 5 19	Article by Dr. Grunwald, et al., 103	3 4 5 26	EXHIBITS Article by Dr. Randall Zusman and 118
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2 (Continued)	2 STATE OF NEW YORK)
3 EXHIBITS	3 ss:
4	4 COUNTY OF NEW YORK)
5 31 Letter to the Editor from Robert 170	,
6 Egan and Howard Pomeranz published	5
7 in the Archives of Ophthalmology in	6 I, Eileen Mulvenna, Notary Public
8 February of 2005, entitled,	7 within and for the State of New York, do hereby
9 "Sildenafil (Viagra) Associated	8 certify:
10 Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy"	1
11	9
12	That I reported the proceedings in
	11 the within entitled matter, and that the within
	12 transcript is a true record of said proceedings.
14	
DOCUMENT/DATA REQUESTS: (Page/Line)	13
15 33 12	14 I further certify that I am not
41 5	15 related to any of the parties to the action by
16 44 5	16 blood or marriage, and that I am in no way
49 6	
17 51 17	17 interested in the outcome of this matter.
76 2	18
18	19 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
19	20 set my hand this 11th day of June, 2007.
20	
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21	22
22	Eileen Mulvenna, CSR/RMR
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25	25
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2 ERRATA SHEET	
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6 NAME OF CASE: VIAGRA PRODUCTS LITIGATION	
DATE OF DEPOSITION: JUNE 8, 2007	
7 NAME OF DEPONENT: HOWARD POMERANZ	
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9 PAGE LINE(S) CHANGE REASON	
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21 HOWARD POMERANZ	
22 Subscribed and sworn to before me	l l
23 this day of, 2007.	
23 this day of, 2007. 24	
23 this day of, 2007.	

^{48 (}Pages 186 to 188)